RED DAUGHTER
OF KRYPTON

SUPERGIRL

BEDARD • VENDETTI • SOULE

SUPERGIRL

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON

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BANGKOK. PLANET EARTH.

RHIALLA.

SUGAR.

WE'VE GOT A *PROBLEM.*

MORE TO THE POINT-- *YOU'VE* GOT A PROBLEM.

THE *INTEL* YOU SENT ME WAS OUTDATED.

A *BUST.*

I'VE BEEN ALL OVER THIS BACKWARD PLANET.

I'VE SEARCHED EVERY STINKIN' BAR AND BROTHEL WHERE YOU *PROMISED* I'D FIND MY *IMPOSTOR.*

BUT HE HASN'T BEEN ON THIS MUDBALL IN *WEEKS.*

...ɔhkɛ...

THE TRAIL'S GONE COLD.

SO I'M COMIN' *HOME.*

AND YOU AND ME ARE GONNA HAVE A *WORD.*

THE MAD WOLF. INTERSTELLAR TRADING OUTPOST.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR *THREATS*, LOBO.

BESIDES, SECTION NINE OF YOUR CONTRACT *FORBIDS* YOU FROM KILLING YOUR EMPLOYER, REMEMBER?

AND WE BOTH KNOW YOU *ALWAYS* HONOR A CONTRACT.

CONTRACT SAYS NOTHING ABOUT *MAIMING* YOU.

WAIT. WAIT.

THERE MIGHT STILL BE A WAY.

THERE'S AN *EARTHLING* I'VE HAD DEALINGS WITH. *SHE'LL* KNOW WHERE YOUR TARGET WENT.

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE?

I THOUGHT THE INFORMATION I GAVE YOU WAS *ACCURATE.* AND THIS PARTICULAR HUMAN *ISN'T* EASY TO REACH...

...NOR IS SHE MERELY HUMAN ANYMORE.

I'M LISTENING.

=wheeze=...

I'M SENDING YOU **COORDINATES,** PLUS ALL THE DATA I HAVE ON HER.

PING

GOT IT. HOLD A MICRON...

ZZZZT

I'VE MET CRIME-LORDS ON A HUNDRED DIFFERENT PLANETS, BUT *YOU* HAVE GOT TO BE THE *DUMBEST.*

YOUR MEN WOULD STILL BE *BREATHIN'* IF YOU'D ONLY BEEN *POLITE* WHEN I WALKED IN. STILL, I SHOWED YOU *MERCY.*

I'M NOT AN ANIMAL.

I JUST HOPE YOU SHOWED YOUR *DANCERS* MORE COURTESY...

KLATCH

N-NOW, *SUCHIN*, LET'S NOT BE HASTY...! IF I *EVER* HURT ANY OF YOU GIRLS, IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE--

BUDDABUDDA BUDDABUDDA BUDDA

I'M *BACK*, RHIALLA.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR *SOURCE*...

...THE ONE WHO'D BETTER FIND THE MAN WHO STOLE MY NAME...

THE BLOCK. ADVANCED RESEARCH FACILITY.

DEEP BELOW EARTH'S SURFACE.

POWER LEVELS NOMINAL.

ALL SYSTEMS GO.

OKAY. LET'S SEE HOW MANY GOD-PARTICLES CAN DANCE ON THE HEAD OF A PIN...

INTRUDER ALERT! INTRUDER ALERT!

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...

ABORT EXPERIMENT.

WE'LL TRY AGAIN ONCE WE FIX THE *ALARM.*

I MEAN, REALLY, WHO'S GONNA DROP IN *HERE* UNANNOUNCED? WE'RE AT THE *EARTH'S CORE--!*

IT'S *ME*, DR. VERITAS. WE NEED TO *TALK*.

SUPERGIRL--?!

I USED THE ENTRY PLATFORM NEAR THE LAVA PITS. HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.

LISTEN, *um*... YOU KNOW I'M *NOT* SHAY VERITAS, RIGHT?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I CAN *SEE* YOUR DNA.

GREAT.

SO THE BOSS NEVER *TOLD* HER.

TYPICAL.

I'M DOCTOR *INGRID HANSEN,* ON LOAN FROM CERN.

PERMANENTLY.

THOMAS NAKAMURA, Ph.D. FORMERLY OF S.T.A.R. LABS.

WHAT IN RAO'S NAME IS *GOING ON* HERE?

STAND DOWN, PEOPLE. TAKE THE COLLIDER OFFLINE.

SOMETHING MORE *IMPORTANT* JUST CAME UP.

DR. VERITAS--

SHAY.

WHAT DID YOU *DO* TO YOUR STAFF?

THEY'RE NOT *CLONES,* IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE THINKING. I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.

THE MORE PRESSING QUESTION IS HOW ARE *YOU* FEELING? I'M NOT SEEING ANY SYMPTOMS OF YOUR *KRYPTONITE POISONING...*

THAT'S, *um,* WHY I CAME TO YOU.

Y'KNOW, TO GET *TESTED.*

MINUTES LATER...

IT'S...*GONE.* THE KRYPTONITE RADIATION IS *COMPLETELY GONE!* HOW IS THAT EVEN *POSSIBLE?*

WELL, SEE, I...

...SOMETHING *HAPPENED* WHILE I WAS AWAY...

DETAILS, KARA.

WHEN LAST WE SPOKE, YOU'D STOLEN AN EXPERIMENTAL *ROCKET BIKE* FROM THIS FACILITY AND HYPER-JUMPED TO DEEP SPACE.

THAT WAS *WEEKS* AGO.

SORRY ABOUT THE BIKE. I WASN'T THINKING STRAIGHT.

I PROMISE I'LL PAY YOU BACK SOMEHOW...

FORGET THE *BIKE,* KARA. YOU WERE *DYING.* I GET IT.

THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU'RE *BETTER* NOW-- AT LEAST PHYSICALLY. BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU MORE *AGITATED.*

SO WHAT AREN'T YOU *TELLING* ME?

...W-WHERE DO I EVEN *BEGIN...?*

I USED TO BE **NORMAL**, Y'KNOW...? I USED TO HAVE **FRIENDS**, AND A **FAMILY**, AND A **LIFE**...

ALL OF THAT **DIED** ALONG WITH KRYPTON.

AND IT'S FELT LIKE ONE NONSTOP **TRAGEDY** EVER SINCE DAD **TRICKED** ME INTO THAT ESCAPE POD...

"...WAKING UP TO FIND THAT EVERYONE I LOVE IS **DEAD**--

"--EXCEPT FOR MY BABY COUSIN, WHO'S GROWN UP INTO A SANCTIMONIOUS **JERK**.

"THEN I MEET MY FIRST LOVE, ONLY TO FIND OUT HE'S A **MONSTER**...

"...AND END UP HAVING TO **KILL** HIM WITH KRYPTONITE, EVEN THOUGH IT MEANS POISONING **MYSELF**.

"AS I WAS SLOWLY DYING, I MET A **BETTER** VERSION OF **ME**. I REALLY LIKED HER, BUT **POWER GIRL** ONLY MADE ME REALIZE WHAT A **FAILURE** I AM...

"...SO I STOLE THAT ROCKET BIKE AND HEADED FOR DEEP SPACE TO DIE **ALONE**.

"I'M STILL **HAZY** ON WHAT HAPPENED OUT THERE. MAYBE I WAS TOO SICK TO **REMEMBER** IT ALL...

"I JUST KNOW SOMEONE TRIED TO TRAP ME WITH A **FAKE KRYPTON**.

"SOMEONE WHO **CURED** MY KRYPTONITE POISONING.

"SOMEONE WHO I STILL CATCH **GLIMPSES** OF IN MY NIGHTMARES...

"AND THEN I GOT THROWN BACK IN TIME TO THE **REAL** KRYPTON...

"...WHICH I HAD TO MAKE SURE **BLEW UP** ALL OVER AGAIN!

"I MEAN--**COME ON!** HOW MUCH GRIEF CAN ONE GIRL **TAKE?!**"

ANTARCTICA

RHIALLA, YOU'VE EXHAUSTED MY PATIENCE.

THERE'S NOTHING *HERE.*

THE COORDINATES JUST GET YOU TO THE **GATE,** LOBO.

THE BLOCK IS YOUR TRUE DESTINATION. IT'S LOCATED NEAR THE CENTER OF THE PLANET.

ON PURPOSE?

ACTUALLY, **NO.** THE FACILITY WAS SWEPT UP IN A ***TRANSDIMENSIONAL MAELSTROM.***

ONE OF EARTH'S RESIDENT **KRYPTONIANS** SAVED IT FROM BEING LOST FOREVER, BUT IT ENDED UP **STUCK** DOWN THERE.

THIS IS **SHAY VERITAS,** THE GENIUS WHO RUNS THE BLOCK. SHE TAKES A **KEEN INTEREST** IN ALIEN VISITORS. **SHE'LL** KNOW WHERE TO FIND YOUR MAN.

DOES THIS MAKE US SQUARE? OR DO YOU STILL FEEL A NEED TO **MUTILATE** ME?

I WOULDN'T REST EASY ***YET,*** SUGAR.

KLK

ƷHHƷ

THEN YOU LEAVE ME WITH ***NO CHOICE,*** LOBO...

THE BLOCK'S MEDICAL LAB.

LISTEN, KARA, I'M GLAD YOU CAME TO ME. I WANT YOU TO FEEL AS *WELCOME* HERE AS YOUR COUSIN, SUPERMAN.

BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, I'M JUST A *SCIENTIST.* WHAT YOU NEED RIGHT NOW IS A *FRIEND.*

DON'T YOU THINK I *KNOW* THAT?!

DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S THE *FIRST* PLACE I WENT WHEN I GOT BACK TO EARTH?!

"I FLEW STRAIGHT TO THE APARTMENT I SHARED WITH MY FRIEND *SIOBHAN.*

"I *RAN OUT* ON HER WHEN I LEFT. I WANTED TO *APOLOGIZE...*

"...BUT SIOBHAN ALREADY HAS A *NEW ROOMMATE!*

"MAYBE SHE COULDN'T HANDLE THE RENT ALONE..."

BUT THE TRUTH IS, SHE'S *BETTER OFF* WITHOUT ME.

SORRY. *sniff* I JUST... I DON'T BELONG *ANYWHERE* ANYMORE...

BREEP

BOSS, YOU HAVE A **CALL.**

TAKE A MESSAGE.

IT'S FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE **GALAXY...**

PUT IT THROUGH.

GREETINGS, SHAY VERITAS.

RHIALLA? LOOK, I'M NOT REALLY IN THE MARKET RIGHT NOW FOR--

I'M NOT CALLING TO SELL YOU SOMETHING-- BUT TO **WARN** YOU.

AN ASSASSIN NAMED **LOBO** IS ON EARTH. HE'S EN ROUTE TO THE BLOCK AS WE SPEAK. I'M AFRAID **YOU** ARE HIS NEXT TARGET.

JUST ONE **MAN?** I'LL HAVE SECURITY INTERCEPT HIM.

NOT A MAN. A **CZARNIAN.** I TRUST YOU ARE AWARE WHAT THAT **MEANS.**

WHAT'S WRONG, SHAY? WHAT'S A **CZARNIAN?**

EXTINCT RACE. OR **CLOSE** TO EXTINCT, ANYWAY.

LOOK, IF HE **IS** CZARNIAN, HE'LL BE MORE DANGEROUS THAN **ANYONE** YOU'VE EVER FACED.

YOU'RE ASSUMING I'M GOING TO FIGHT HIM. I'D RATHER TRY **TALKING.** YOU KNOW, EXTINCT ALIEN TO EXTINCT ALIEN...?

ANTARCTICA.

CLOSE...

...ANOTHER FEW STEPS AND...

...TELEPORTER PAD. MAKES MORE SENSE THAN AN ELEVATOR.

SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO CRACK THE ENCRYP--

WWV FWASH

STOP RIGHT THERE.

WELL, FRAG ME RUNNIN'...

WHOEVER YOU ARE, YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE.

EVER HEAR OF *KRYPTON?*

IT'S GONE NOW. ***DESTROYED.*** ALL THAT'S LEFT IS ME AND MY COUSIN.

NOT VERITAS.

SHE'S SOME **PROTECTION** FOR THE BLOCK.

YOUR PEOPLE ARE GONE, TOO. AND IF WE HAVE ***THAT*** IN COMMON, THEN MAYBE--

HONEY.

HONEY?

WHAT YOU ***DON'T*** KNOW ABOUT ME COULD FILL A ***MOON-SIZED CEMETERY.***

NOW, I'VE GOT ***BUSINESS*** WITH YOUR BOSS DOWN-STAIRS--

--AND YOU'RE IN THE ***WAY.***

HEY--!

KLATCH

SORRY.

NOT SORRY.

SIT TIGHT, DARLIN'. THAT *FLASH-RESIN* WEARS OFF EVENTUALLY, BUT TILL THEN, NOT EVEN A ZERELLIAN RAZOR-APE COULD--

MMF!

SKRAK

HOW STRONG *ARE* YOU?

WHAK

STRONG ENOUGH!

OKAY, YOU JUST STOPPED BEIN' CUTE!

KOOM

SURKT

THAT... HURT!

A LOT!

BAD MISTAKE, MISTER. I HAVE BEEN THROUGH HELL LATELY!

NO MORE!

KRAK

SPAK

SPAK

THOOM

OH, NO...

...NO, NO, NO...

I... I DIDN'T MEAN TO...

I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL YOU--!

AFTER JURGENS & BREEDING

THE BEAST IN THE BLOCK

TONY BEDARD writer YILDIRAY CINAR penciller RAY McCARTHY inker DAN BROWN colorist ROB LEIGH letterer
cover art by GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI and CAM SMITH with DAN BROWN

THE BLOCK.
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FACILITY.

BEGIN RECORDING.
THE *DECEASED* IS MALE, APPEARS TO BE TWENTY-SEVEN EARTH YEARS IN AGE.
ONE-POINT-EIGHT METERS TALL...
...ONE HUNDRED THREE KILOGRAMS.
OCCUPATION-- *ASSASSIN.*
SPECIES-- *CZARNIAN.*
NAME-- *LOBO.*

I STILL CAN'T *BELIEVE* IT, KARA. WE'RE MAPPING THE GENOME OF AN ACTUAL *CZARNIAN!*

I MEAN, I'D HEARD THEY CAN HEAL ALMOST ANY INJURY, BUT *THIS* ONE HAS DEFINITELY *FLAT-LINED.*

I ONLY MEANT TO KNOCK HIM DOWN, DR. VERITAS. I...

...I DIDN'T MEAN TO *KILL* HIM.

I'M... STILL NOT SURE WHAT *CAME OVER* ME.

BELIEVE ME, YOU DID THE UNIVERSE A *FAVOR.*

LOBO WAS A *HIT MAN* AND A *MASS MURDERER.* YOU SHOULD *SEE* THE FILE RHIALLA SENT ME.

HE... HE *KICKED* ME IN THE *FACE* AND... EVERYTHING WENT *RED,* AND...

...IT WAS LIKE...*EVERYTHING* I'VE BEEN THROUGH LATELY...ALL THAT PAIN AND LONELINESS AND *ANGER...*

...*ALL* OF IT WAS IN THAT *PUNCH* I THREW--!

BUT I *SWEAR* I WASN'T TRYING TO *KILL* HIM.

...I JUST...

...I DON'T EVEN *KNOW...*

I DON'T EVEN KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH!

SUPERGIRL

Eh...

WAS THAT REALLY NECESSARY, SUPERGIRL?

SORRY FOR THE MESS, DR. KANAVAN, DR. FINKEL. WE'LL, ah...

...WE'LL LEAVE YOU TO IT.

KARA, YOU TOLD ME THAT WHEN YOU WENT BACK TO KRYPTON YOUR POWERS STARTED ***FADING***, RIGHT?

IT HAD TO DO WITH THE ***RED SUN***, I THINK.

BUT NOW YOU'RE BACK ON EARTH, WITH ITS ***YELLOW*** SUN, AND YOU'VE STARTED TO ***RECHARGE***.

YOU'D NEVER EXPERIENCED A ***POWER FLUCTUATION*** LIKE THAT BEFORE YOU STRUCK LOBO.

HOW COULD ANYONE IN YOUR SITUATION ***POSSIBLY*** KNOW HOW HARD THEY WERE PUNCHING?

I'VE OFTEN WONDERED WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR YOU--MOVING THROUGH A WORLD OF FRAGILE CREATURES, ALWAYS WALKING ON EGGSHELLS...

THEN AGAIN, AT LEAST ***YOU'RE*** FREE TO ***TRAVEL***.

WHAT, DON'T ***YOU*** EVER GET OUT OF THE BLOCK? LIKE, ON VACATION OR SOMETHING?

...

I ***CAN'T***.

WHEN I *FIRST* CAME TO WORK HERE...

A *DIMENSIONAL PORTAL* EXPERIMENT EXPOSED THE BLOCK TO SOMETHING WE ENDED UP CALLING *THE ETERNAL MAELSTROM.*

"IT SUCKED IN THE ENTIRE FACILITY LIKE A BLACK HOLE.

"YOUR *COUSIN* RISKED HIS LIFE TO SAVE US, BUT THE PRICE OF SURVIVAL WAS *TWOFOLD...*

"ONE, WE *ALL* ENDED UP WITH *MY* GENETIC CODE. DON'T ASK HOW-- IT'S *COMPLICATED.*

"TWO, THE BLOCK SETTLED NEAR EARTH'S CORE, SLIGHTLY OUT OF PHASE BUT PERMANENTLY *STUCK.*

"AND YOU DON'T WANT TO *KNOW* WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM IF I EVER STEPPED OUTSIDE."

YOU ASK ME, FINKEL, NO ONE WITH AN "S" ON THEIR CHEST SHOULD BE ALLOWED WITHIN A THOUSAND MILES OF US.

HEY, WE'D ALL BE ***DEAD*** IF NOT FOR SUPERMAN.

GREAT. WE'RE STILL AROUND TO CLEAN UP YET ***ANOTHER*** MESS THE BOSS MADE.

COME ON, KANAVAN, WOULD YOU BE SEQUENCING ALIEN DNA IF YOU WERE STILL AT THE ***CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL?***

MAYBE NOT, BUT RIGHT NOW I FEEL MORE LIKE A ***JANITOR*** THAN A DOCTOR...

...AND BACK IN ATLANTA AT LEAST THERE WAS A ***CHANCE*** OF MEETING INTERESTING NEW ***MEN...***

LEVEL 8--XENOMECHANICS.

LISTEN, KARA, I CAN HELP FINE-TUNE YOUR POWERS, BUT WHAT YOU *REALLY* NEED IS SOME *NORMALCY* IN YOUR LIFE.

AND THE BLOCK IS *ANYTHING* BUT NORMAL.

HOW ABOUT WE CALL YOUR COUSIN?

NO. KAL MAY BE FAMILY, BUT...HE'S JUST NOT LIKE ME.

HE'S GOT THAT WHOLE *DUTY* AND *OBLIGATION* THING HIS FOSTER PARENTS DRILLED INTO HIM.

EARTH IS HIS *HOME.* FOR ME? NOT SO MUCH.

I JUST WANTED MY *OLD LIFE,* Y'KNOW? AND THANKS TO HIM, THAT'LL *NEVER* HAPPEN!

I MEAN, WE WERE *THERE!* BACK ON KRYPTON!

BUT *ALL* KAL WANTED WAS TO MAKE SURE IT BLEW UP *ALL OVER AGAIN!!*

THE ONLY PERSON ON EARTH WHO GETS ME AT ALL IS *SIOBHAN.*

AND I PRETTY MUCH RUINED *THAT.*

I COULD "GET" YOU, TOO, KARA.

IF YOU'LL GIVE ME THE CHANCE.

GUESS NO ONE'S EVER *PLAYED POSSUM* TO GET INSIDE THIS PLACE.

I'LL HAVE TO ASK RHIALLA WHY SHE DIDN'T *WARN* ME ABOUT THE *BLONDE.*

THE GIRL HIT ME HARDER THAN *ANYONE* EVER HAS.

DIG FOR ANSWERS, *DATA-DAGGER.*

KRAKT

NAME--"KARA ZOR-EL." SPECIES--"KRYPTONIAN"...

STRENGTH, INVULNERABILITY, ENHANCED SPEED, HEAT VISION, HEIGHTENED *SENSES*...

WHAT *CAN'T* SHE DO?

FORTUNATELY, IF THERE'S ONE THING I'M GOOD AT, IT'S TURNING SOMEONE'S STRENGTH *AGAINST* THEM...

LEVEL 7--ASTROPHYSICS.

SO HOW EXACTLY DID YOU KNOW WHAT A CZARNIAN WAS?

OH, I'M INTERESTED IN *LOTS* OF THINGS--ESPECIALLY *EXTRATERRESTRIALS.*

SERIOUSLY, SHAY, I GET THE FEELING YOU'VE BEEN *STUDYING* THAT RACE. OR WHAT'S LEFT OF IT.

FAIR ENOUGH, KARA.

THE TRUTH IS I WAS TRACKING *ANOTHER* CZARNIAN WHO CAME TO EARTH NOT SO LONG AGO. HE--

#5

BREEP-BREEP INTRUDER ALERT. INTRUDER ALERT.

WHAT *NOW?*

PLINK

SKRRRRR

HEY, I THINK SOMETHING CAME LOOSE...

KARA, *WAIT--*

HYPERSONICS.

FOR YOU AND ME, THEY'RE JUST A HEADACHE. FOR HER? *NEURAL OVERLOAD.*

SEE, VERITAS, THAT'S THE *DOWNSIDE* TO SUPER-SENSES--

THEY AMPLIFY *EVERYTHING...*

DON'T *GO* NOWHERE, KID.

YOU AND ME HAVE *BUSINESS* WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH THE DOCTOR.

RECOGNIZE VOICEPRINT-- VERITAS, SHAY!

LADY, YOU CAN *SPARE* YOURSELF SOME PAIN IF YOU JUST *COOPERATE.*

FUSION ORB, TRIAL FIVE!

INITIATE POWER-UP!

ACTIVATE!

ARRH--!

RRRRRRR...

Hrrh.

KREEEEEEEK

hmf

COME ON...
COME ON...

XENOCONTRAINMENT MODULE 5

HELLO...?

I *KNOW* YOU'RE IN HERE. I KNOW YOU CAN *HEAR* ME.

I ONLY HOPE YOU *UNDERSTAND.*

THERE IS SOMEONE COMING WHO WILL TRY TO KILL US *BOTH* IF HE FINDS US.

I THINK *YOU* MIGHT BE THE ONLY ONE LEFT IN THE WHOLE FACILITY POWERFUL ENOUGH TO *STOP* HIM.

AND I *PRAY* YOU'LL UNDERSTAND THAT IF I'M MORE AFRAID OF *HIM* THAN I AM OF YOU, THEN--

Blaze

...

Understands.

BLAZE.

RIGHT.

WE, *ah*...WE NEVER ***MEANT*** TO BRING YOU HERE. I JUS--

=mmph!=

Let.

Blaze.

GO.

SKRAK

?

KNOCK KNOCK!

SHHKT

SHKT

BLAZE...?

WHERE'D YOU GO?!

YOU REALLY THINK THAT MINI-SUN TRICK WOULD FINISH ME?!

JUST...JUST TELL ME. WHO PUT THE CONTRACT ON ME?

EXACTLY WHO DID I PISS OFF OUT THERE?

WHO SAYS I CAME TO KILL YOU?

...UNNH...

...SHAY...?

DR. VERITAS?! WHERE ARE--

--YOU?

Y'KNOW, I ONLY WANTED YOUR HELP *FINDING* SOMEONE.

'COURSE, NOW THAT YOU *FLASH-FRIED* ME, ALL BETS ARE OFF...

I DIDN'T SET OFF THE *FUSION ORB* TO HURT YOU.

OH, NO?

THEN *WHY?*

HERE'S A CLUE-- THE ORB IS *YELLOW.*

BIN

ZZZ

LAST TIME, I KILLED YOU BY ACCIDENT.

THIS TIME YOU'VE GOT IT *COMING*...

RAGE QUIT

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LOVE IS BLIND.

THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY ON AT LEAST A DOZEN WORLDS I KNOW OF.

WRONG.

PLANET YSMAULT. WEEKS AGO...

LOVE SEES JUST FINE.

MOSTLY WHAT IT *WANTS* TO SEE.

RAGE IS WHAT REALLY BLINDS YOU.

SEEKING

SEEKING

SEEKING

SEEKING

BUT RAGE HAS *USES*...

SEEKING

SEEKING

...AND IF I PLAY THIS RIGHT, RAGE WILL *SAVE* MY LILY-WHITE ASS TODAY.

LOBO. CZARNIAN BOUNTY HUNTER.

THE BLOCK, PLANET EARTH.
XENOCONTAINMENT MODULE 5.

I CAME TO THIS PLACE HOPING THE GENIUS IN CHARGE COULD LOCATE THE IMPOSTOR WHO STOLE MY NAME.

SHAY VERITAS. GENIUS IN CHARGE.

I DIDN'T EXPECT ANY TROUBLE FROM THIS OVERGROWN SCIENCE LAB. BUT WHEN I ARRIVED, I RAN STRAIGHT INTO *LITTLE MISS POWERHOUSE.*

POW

SUPERGIRL. KRYPTONIAN LITTLE MISS POWERHOUSE.

SHE'S STRONGER THAN *ANYTHING* I'VE EVER COME UP AGAINST--BUT SHE'S ALSO A *WHIRLWIND* OF EMOTION.

AND YOU DON'T *FIGHT* THE WIND.

WHAM

YOU *HARNESS* IT.

WHAT THE HELL IS *THIS* SUPPOSED TO BE?

CAN TELL BY THE *SMELL* IT'S NOT FROM AROUND HERE. MORE LIKE A *TROPHY* TAKEN FROM ANOTHER WORLD.

NOT A WORLD I'D WANT TO VISIT.

BUT THAT'S A MYSTERY FOR LATER.

BLONDIE'S COMIN'.

LEADING WITH HER *CHIN.*

I'M GIVING YOU *ONE CHANCE* TO SURR--

FZAMM

THUMP

KRK

...hh... HRRR...

WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH THIS GUY?!

HE WAS DEAD LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO.

I ACTUALLY FELT GUILTY ABOUT THAT!

THROOM

THROOM

NOW ALL I FEEL IS THE URGE TO CRACK HIS SKULL!

WARNING-- CONTAINMENT BREACH.

KROOSH

VERITAS TO COMMAND CENTER. POWER UP THE TELEPORTER...

...GET A LOCK ON LOBO AND SUPERGIRL. BEAM THEM OUT, ASAP.

BOTH OF THEM, DOCTOR?

LOOK, I DON'T WANT TO GIVE HER THE BOOT, BUT SHE'S OUT OF CONTROL!

HALF A MINUTE MORE AND SHE'LL DEMOLISH THE BLOCK.

ONCE THEY'RE OUT, SEND A TEAM TO RESEAL XENOCON FIVE...

...HURRY BEFORE OUR OTHER "GUEST" DECIDES TO WANDER OUT.

YOU GOT ANY *MORE* FOR ME, SUGAR?

OR ARE YOU ALL TUCKERED OUT?

*HE'S LAUGHING AT ME. IT'S LIKE HE **WANTS** ME TO KILL HIM ALL OVER AGAIN--!*

YOU THREW *ONE SOLID PUNCH* WHEN I SHOWED UP, BUT YOU'VE BEEN *PULLING* 'EM EVER SINCE.

WHAT'S WRONG? *SCARED* TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU *REALLY* CUT LOOSE?

COMMAND, BEAM THEM OUT *NOW!*

*HE THINKS I'M **WEAK**.*

HE THINKS I WON'T DO IT...

ALL THAT *POWER...*

*...AND **STILL** YOU HIT LIKE A **GIRL**.*

HRAHHH--

FWASH

ANTARCTICA.

IT WORKED.

KNEW VERITAS WOULDN'T LET US WRECK HER CLUBHOUSE.

VVV FWASH

NOW TO SURVIVE THE NEXT FEW SECONDS.

THOMP

=HNN=

HEY!

FWEET FWEET FWEET

STOP WHISTLING! I'M NOT YOUR DOG!

CHOOM

WASN'T *YOU* I WAS WHISTLIN' FOR!

AND *MY SHIP'S* GOT MORE BITE THAN ANY DOG.

YOU THINK THIS IS *FUNNY*, CZARNIAN?!

YOU WON'T BE LAUGHING WHEN I *CATCH* YOU!

SETTLE DOWN, KRYPTONIAN. I DON'T NEED YOU RAGING-MAD ANYMORE. I NEED YOU TO *LISTEN*.

Heh. THE FILE DID SAY YOU'VE GOT A TEMPER.

TALK TO MY FISTS!

SEE, I USED MY DATA-DAGGER TO DOWNLOAD ANYTHING SHAY HAD ON YOU.

FIRST FILE I READ WAS THE PSYCH EVALUATION SHE WROTE.

DID SHE TELL YOU SHE CONSIDERS YOU A "TICKING TIME-BOMB"?

STOP PLAYING LAB RAT FOR THAT WOMAN. IT'S A CRIMINAL WASTE OF TALENT.

I KNOW, BECAUSE I WAS LIKE YOU ONCE.

BITTER.

ALONE.

MAD AS HELL.

BUT I DIDN'T LET IT CONSUME ME. I PUT IT TO WORK.

WAIT A MINUTE. NEW YORK CITY?!

WHY'D HE FLY HERE OF ALL PLACES?

NO PARKING

BROADWAY

QUEENS, NY.

FILE SAYS YOU LIVE HERE, SO I'M BETTING YOU'D RATHER HEAR ME OUT THAN LEVEL THE PLACE TRYIN' TO KILL ME.

REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE *IN COMMON*-- SURVIVORS OF DEAD WORLDS, AND SO ON?

YOU WERE *RIGHT*. I'VE BEEN WHERE YOU ARE RIGHT NOW. AND I CAN SHOW YOU THE WAY *OUT*.

LET ME TRAIN YOU. BE MY *PARTNER*. HELP ME FIND THE MURDERING BASTARD WHO STOLE MY NAME.

YOU TRIED TO *KILL* ME. NOW YOU'RE OFFERING ME A *JOB*?

I'M OFFERING YOU A WAY TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR *LIFE*.

THIS PLANET'S TOO *SMALLTIME* FOR THE LIKES OF YOU, KARA ZOR-EL.

"YOU WERE MEANT FOR *BIGGER* THINGS."

SEEKING

YOU KNOW WHAT I AM *SICK AND TIRED* OF?

PEOPLE ACTING LIKE THEY *KNOW* ME-- LIKE THEY ONLY WANT WHAT'S *BEST* FOR ME.

NOW, HOLD ON--

NO! EVERYONE I MEET MAKES *PLANS* FOR ME.

EVERYONE ENDS UP TRYING TO *USE* ME.

EVEN SHAY. EVEN KAL.

AND NOW *YOU.*

99¢ EACH!

WELL, I AM *FINISHED* WITH USERS.

THAT MEANS *YOU'RE* FINISHED, TOO...

SIOBHAN, AS YOUR NEW ROOMMATE, I HAVE A *CONFESSION.*

YOU TOOK MY LAST FUDGESICLE, ALEXA.

IT WAS *CALLING* TO ME.

CALL RICKEY

BOOM

CRIKEY--!

SHUT THE WINDOW--! YOU *DO NOT* WANT TO GET MIXED UP IN *THAT.*

AYE...

THOOM

THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOTTA GO CHECK ON.

DON'T WAIT UP.

CORONA PARK, QUEENS.

LOBO'S WRONG ABOUT EARTH. IT ISN'T "SMALLTIME."

IT'S GOING TO BE THE DEATH OF ME.

SPLANG

MY LIFE'S BEEN NOTHING BUT PAIN SINCE I WOKE UP HERE. LOBO'S JUST THE LAST STRAW.

CONGRATULATIONS, CZARNIAN!

YOU CAUGHT ME ON THE WRONG FREAKIN' DAY!

ACQUIRED

DAD. KAL. H'EL. SIOBHAN.

THEY ALL LET ME DOWN.

THEY ALL BROKE MY HEART.

AND NOW THIS.

WH--?!

NO MORE.

SPAK

FWEET

NOBODY GETS AWAY WITH HURTING ME EVER AGAIN.

NOT THIS TIME!

WAIT! THE ENGINES ARE--

KARA--!

SKROOM

BLOODY NASS! THAT SHIP WAS CUSTOM BUILT!

THE *THINGS* I DID JUST TO *PAY* FOR IT...!

DON'T WORRY...

"...YOU'LL PAY FOR THEM *ALL*."

THIS STRENGTH, THIS POWER-- IT'S BEEN LIKE A CURSE.

BUT I REFUSE TO BE A VICTIM ANYMORE!

EVERY NASTY SURPRISE LIFE THROWS AT ME, I'M THROWING IT RIGHT BACK!

FINE, EARTH! I GET IT! I'M NOT WELCOME HERE!

I DON'T BELONG ANYWHERE!

KARA ZOR-EL OF KRYPTON.

YOU HAVE GREAT RAGE IN YOUR HEART.

YOU BELONG.

TO THE RED LANTERN CORPS.

SIOBHAN, WHAT'RE YE DOIN', GIRL...?

BABUM BABUM BABUM

KARA...?

IS THAT YOU...?

BABUM BABUM BABUM

BA BUM BA BUM BA BUM

...HRRRRRR...

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON PART 1: INNER DEMONS

TONY BEDARD writer YILDIRAY CINAR penciller RAY McCARTHY inker DAN BROWN colorist ROB LEIGH letterer

cover art by GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI and CAM SMITH with DAN BROWN

QUEENS, NY. ONE MONTH AGO...

MY NAME'S SIOBHAN SMYTHE.

I NEVER WAS MUCH GOOD AT KEEPING FRIENDS.

YOU SURE THIS IS *SAFE*, SIOBHAN?

AYE, KARA... LONG AS YE KEEP YOURSELF SET TO *SIMMER*.

BUT IF THE LANDLORD DOESN'T FIX THE *HEAT* BY TOMORROW, FEEL FREE TO BURN THE WHOLE PLACE DOWN.

WHAT MADE YOU SO SURE I COULD *CONTROL* IT LIKE THIS?

DUNNO. MOSTLY I WAS JUST HUNGRY.

NOW IF I ONLY HAD A PROPER *STICK* TO TOAST THIS *MARSHMALLOW*...

EAT GROUND

SERIOUSLY, THOUGH...

YOU GOT ME TO ACHIEVE A LEVEL OF CONTROL I DIDN'T THINK WAS POSSIBLE.

GUESS I JUST BRING OUT THE BEST IN PEOPLE.

"STICK WITH ME, KID, AND YOU'LL *GO* PLACES..."

YES.

I THINK I MIGHT.

ETIGO

FLAT
GROUN

AT

FWOOSH

OCH! YE **BURNED** IT!

GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU ***MENACE!***

*I NEVER KEPT MY FRIENDS BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT THEM HURT. NOT BY MY **FATHER**... AND NOT BY THE MONSTER THAT LIVES INSIDE ME.*

*BUT THEN I MADE A FRIEND WHO **COULDN'T** BE HURT.*

*AND IT SEEMED LIKE A BLOODY **MIRACLE.***

QUEENS, NY. NOW...

SO MUCH FOR MIRACLES...

HRAGGHHH--!

FWOOSH!

I'VE NO IDEA WHAT'S TURNED MY BEST FRIEND FROM SUPERGIRL INTO... THIS.

HRRR...

AND I DOUBT I'LL LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND OUT.

SHASH

ALL I KNOW IS SHE WAS FIGHTING THAT PALE GUY. MAYBE KILLED HIM, FROM THE LOOK OF IT.

DID HE DRUG HER OR POISON HER OR SOMETHING?

SSSSSSS...

SSSSSSS...

...SSSS SSSIOBHANNNN!

SOUNDS LIKE KARA'S STILL IN THERE SOMEWHERE--AND NONE TOO HAPPY WITH ME.

I WAS AN IDIOT TO VENTURE OUT HERE.

I SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO ALEXA AND JUST STAYED HOME...

AH--!

...hrr... rnnn...

...ALWAYSSS...

...RRRUNNING...

KARA...? I'M YOUR FRIEND, REMEMBER?

WHATEVER'S HAPPENED, YOU DON'T HAVE TO HURT ANYONE.

...WANT... HURRRRT...

ONE THING I KNOW FOR SURE--WE BOTH HAVE OUR DEMONS.

HERS HAVE TAKEN OVER.

I ONLY PRAY I DON'T HAVE TO UNLEASH MINE...

THE BLOCK.

MONITOR/RESEARCH FACILITY FOR STRANGE ANOMALIES.

STATUS?

SUPERGIRL'S IN NEW YORK, **DOCTOR VERITAS.** BUT SOMETHING **STRANGE** HAS HAPPENED TO HER.

HOW'D SHE GET A **RED LANTERN RING?!**

A **WHAT?**

THEY'RE LIKE THE **GREEN** POWER RINGS, ONLY FUELED BY **RAGE** INSTEAD OF WILLPOWER.

I HEARD ABOUT THEM AFTER WHAT HAPPENED ON **HAVANIA...** I HAD CONTACTS IN THE ROYAL FAMILY THERE.

A **KRYPTONIAN** WEARING ONE OF THOSE IS AN **EXTINCTION LEVEL** THREAT--!

COMMUNICATIONS, TRY REACHING **SUPERMAN.**

SECURITY, DID WE SEAL THE BREACH IN **XENOCON FIVE** YET?

NOT SURE, BOSS.

I HAVE AN OPEN LINE TO THE **REPAIR TEAM...**

"...BUT NO ONE IS RESPONDING."

Blaze

"DISPATCH AN ARMED SECURITY TEAM IMMEDIATELY. IF OUR *GUEST* DOWN THERE GETS OUT...

Begins

MOVE IT, PEOPLE!

BIELAWSKI, GUARD THE DOOR. THE REST OF YOU COME INSIDE WITH ME.

YES, SIR.

"...WE ARE WELL AND TRULY SCREWED."

QUEENS, NY.

KARA, THIS ISN'T *YOU.*

DID THAT PALE MAN *HURT* YOU? DID HE DO SOMETHING TO YOUR *MIND?*

LET ME *HELP,* KARA. PLEASE.

...hrr... HELP...?

YES, LUV. LET ME--

FREEZE! N.Y.P.D.!

NYPD

KARA, *NO!*

THERE'LL BE NO TALKING HER DOWN NOW.

BUT IF I DON'T **ACT,** THOSE COPS--AND THE CITY--ARE **TOAST!**

FASHHH

YESSS!

YOU CANNOT DENY ME! YOU CANNOT CONTAIN ME!

THE SILVER BANSHEE IS FREE!

GOD, THE PAIN! I ALWAYS FORGET HOW MUCH IT **HURTS** TO LET HER OUT.

AND HOW SHE MAKES ME FEEL SO SMALL-- **ADRIFT** IN HER POWER...

...LIKE I COULD **DROWN**, AND THE SILVER BANSHEE WOULD BE ALL THAT'S LEFT...

NO. I CAN CONTROL HER. WE'RE DOING THIS MY WAY!

WH-WHAT ARE YE DOING, CHILD?!

EEEE

SHE'S TOO BLOODY FAST...

THRUNCH

AW, NO. THAT'S MY FLAT--!

GOTTA MOVE THIS FIGHT FAR FROM HERE...

...OR MY CURRENT ROOMMATE WILL BE KARA'S NEXT TARGET.

MEG? IT'S ALEXA. SHE FINALLY WENT AND DID IT.

NO, I'M FINE, BUT YOU AND I SHOULD MEET UP WITH TIFFANY, ASAP.

THE THREE OF US HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT SIOBHAN...

SIOBHANNN!

RIGHT ON CUE.

THIS FIGHT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE. PEOPLE ARE BOUND TO DIE.

I SHOULD HAVE LED HER AWAY--FAR, FAR AWAY. IF ONLY I COULD FLY, OR...OR...

THERE IS A WAY, CHILD. YOU KNOW NOT WHAT I AM CAPABLE OF. SHARE CONTROL WITH ME AND I'LL SHOW YOU.

MY SCREAM RISES PAST THE HUMAN REGISTER, THOUGH I'M SURE KARA HEARS IT JUST FINE.

INDEED SHE DOES. IT'S THIS NEXT PART THAT'S THE REAL TRICK--

FWASH

CATSKILL MOUNTAINS.
ONE HUNDRED MILES AWAY.

VORRRP

Hrrr--?!

THAT...WAS...

...IMPOSSIBLE.

WHERE ARE WE?
HOW'D I DO THAT?

THERE'S SO MUCH MORE, CHILD, IF YOU'D GIVE YOURSELF OVER COMPLETELY...

SHUT UP!

WHY RESIST?
I AM THE REAL YOU.

BOLLOCKS! YOU'RE MORE DANGEROUS THAN KARA IS RIGHT NOW--!

THIS WAS A MISTAKE.
THIS WAS A--

WEEKS AGO...

--TERRIBLE FREAKIN' *MISTAKE!*

YOU...*DON'T* WANT ME TO MOVE IN?

DON'T BE DAFT. *OF COURSE* I WANT YE HERE. BUT WHAT DID YE *DO* TO THE PLACE?!

I CLEANED UP.

WHY? I HAD A *SYSTEM.* I KNEW WHERE EVERYTHING *WAS.*

SHWFF

ZOOM

VIIIP

BETTER?

KARA, LUV, THERE ARE SOME MESSES YE *CAN'T* FIX FOR OTHERS. YE HAVE TO LET 'EM SORT THINGS OUT FOR THEMSELVES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF YOU EVER GET AN URGE TO SUPER-SCRUB THE BATHROOM...

NOW...

HRRH--!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I'M ACTUALLY HOLDING MY OWN AGAINST HER--!

YOU'VE ONLY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE OF WHAT WE CAN DO.

SSSSSTOP!

SSTOP

SSSCREECHING!

SKROM

CORONA PARK, QUEENS.

...skoff...

...HOPE NO ONE WAS WATCHIN'...

...tt...

I LOVED THAT SPROKKIN' SHIP. NOW HOW DO I GET HOME?

DATA-DAGGER. YOU PULL ANYTHING FROM THE BLOCK'S DATABASE ABOUT FINDING A RIDE *OFF* THIS PLANET?

AFFIRMATIVE, LOBO. ALL FILES WERE DOWNLOADED.

ANYTHING IN THERE ABOUT MY *IMPOSTOR'S* CURRENT WHEREABOUTS?

FILENAME: CZARNIAN. REVIEWING. EXTRAPOLATING...

Hmh. MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A WASTE OF TIME AFTER ALL.

THE CATSKILLS.

THIS IS GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE.

IT'S THE RING, CHILD. BLOOD-MAGIC, FAR BLACKER THAN ANYTHING THIS WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

YE CAN'T SAVE HER, SIOBHAN. YE CANNOT EVEN STOP HER.

HRARRHH!!

I WON'T ABANDON HER. I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE TAKEN OVER BY A HATEFUL POWER.

HOWEVER SHE GOT IN THIS MESS, I HAVE TO GET HER OUT!

BUT YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, CHILD-- SOME MESSES YE CAN'T FIX FOR OTHERS.

THE BEST YOU CAN DO IS MAKE HER GO AWAY BEFORE SHE SETS THE EARTH ABLAZE.

C-CAN'T STOP...RED RING!

CAN'T STOP... RRRREVENGE!

RE--REVENGE FOR WHAT?!

HOME!

K-KRYPTON!

IF YE WANNA AVENGE YOUR *PLANET,* WHAT THE HELL ARE YE DOIN' *HERE?!*

WHATEVER BLEW UP KRYPTON ISN'T ON *EARTH!* IT'S OUT THERE! *WAY* OUT THERE!

I HATE MYSELF RIGHT NOW.

YOU ARE DOING HER A FAVOR.

*NO, I'M JUST TRYING TO GET **RID** OF HER BEFORE SHE TURNS THE WORLD TO **CINDERS.***

HRRAARRRGH!

I NEVER WAS MUCH GOOD AT KEEPING FRIENDS.

*"STICK WITH ME, KID, AND YOU'LL **GO** PLACES."*

*JUST TRY NOT TO **KILL** EVERYONE ONCE YE GET THERE...*

MEANWHILE...

PLANET KAARTH.

"MY LORD, THE INVASION PROCEEDS AS PLANNED.

"THEIR MILITARY ASSETS CANNOT HARM US.

"MY TROOPS MOVE WITH IMPUNITY THROUGH THEIR CITIES.

"ALL FLEE BEFORE THEM."

BUT SOMETHING STILL TROUBLES YOU, GENERAL HOM?

YES, MY LORD. THESE PEOPLE, THESE KAARTHIANS...

...THEY SHOW NO SIGNS OF WORTHINESS, NO REAL FIGHT IN THEM. THEY ARE SIMPLY *DYING.*

YOU HAVE FOUGHT ON THE FRONT LINES MANY TIMES, HOM. BUT YOU ARE NEW TO COMMAND.

SOON ENOUGH, YOU WILL LEARN WHAT YOUR PREDECESSOR UNDERSTOOD ALL TOO WELL...

...THAT OURS IS A SACRED TASK.

WE PLAY OUR PART. WE PUT THEM TO THE TEST. BUT IT IS NOT UP TO US IF THEY PASS.

THE WORTHY MUST FIND IT WITHIN THEMSELVES TO ENDURE, TO OVERCOME, TO BE STRENGTHENED BY TRAGEDY AS WE WERE.

AND IF WE SLAY A THOUSAND WORLDS AND ONLY FIND ONE WORTHY, THAT IS NOT A MISTAKE. IT IS THE BEDROCK TRUTH OF THE UNIVERSE.

AND THEN WE MOVE ON TO THE NEXT WORLD...

TAN 13'
SINC'

RED ALERT PART 1 OF 2

ROBERT VENDITTI writer BILLY TAN penciller ROB HUNTER inker ALEX SINCLAIR colorist DAVE SHARPE letterer
cover art by BILLY TAN and ALEX SINCLAIR

SPACE SECTOR 3014.

FASTER, BARREER. THERE'S *DISTANCE* TO COVER.

GRANTED. BUT WE SHOULD TAKE PAUSE, LOK. WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE'RE FLYING INTO. COMMUNICATIONS ARE DOWN--

COMMS ARE DOWN BECAUSE THE CORPS IS UNDER *ASSAULT.*

I DON'T KNOW WHAT *YOU* HEARD BEFORE EVERYTHING WENT DARK, BUT *I* HEARD SECTOR HOUSES *BEGGING* FOR BACKUP.

LANTERNS ARE *UNDER SIEGE,* AND WE'RE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE!

UNFORTUNATELY, WE AREN'T ALONE. *LOOK.*

IF THAT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS--

"--WE'RE THE ONES ABOUT TO BE UNDER SIEGE."

RAHHGL!!

RGGHANNGG!

A *RED LANTERN?* WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR *THIS,* PARTNER.

NO, WE DON'T. BUT YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE WHEN TO ENFORCE THE LAW AND WHEN NOT TO.

AND I WON'T LEAVE THE CITIZENS OF THIS SECTOR DEFENSELESS AGAINST AN AGENT OF *RAGE.*

HALT! YOU ARE UNDER ARREST FOR *UNAUTHORIZED* USE OF THE *EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM.*

POWER DOWN YOUR RING, AND--

!

GGNNARGHNN!

YRRRGH!

AAIGH!

LOK!

GET HER OFF!

WHOOM

AK-GGL!

NNNGH

LOOK ALIVE :GRBT: BARREER!

SHIELD UP!

GNNGRRG!

KI-RA-KOOM

NNUHHGGH

MUST HAVE EXHAUSTED HERSELF.

NO WONDER. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A BEING CHANNEL THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM THROUGH THEIR *EYES?*

I'VE NEVER EVEN *HEARD* OF THAT.

LET'S GET IT BACK TO H.Q. BEFORE IT COMES AROUND.

DIFFICULT NOT TO FEEL SOME MEASURE OF *PITY* FOR HER.

THE SPIT FROM ONE OF THOSE THINGS NEARLY *CORRODED* WARDEN VOZ'S *FACE* OFF.

HIM I FEEL BAD FOR.

SPACE SECTOR ZERO.
THE SENTIENT PLANET MOGO.
NEW CENTRAL PRECINCT OF THE INTERGALACTIC POLICE FORCE KNOWN AS THE GREEN LANTERN CORPS.

DO YOU SOLEMLY SWEAR TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE, UH, ***CONSTITUTION*** OF THE...UNIVERSE AGAINST ALL ENEMIES TERRESTRIAL AND GALACTIC; TO BEAR TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE TO THE SAME--

--AND TO OBEY THE ORDERS OF, UH, WHICHEVER GREEN LANTERN IS GIVING YOU ORDERS, ACCORDING TO THE UNIVERSAL CRIMINAL CODE...

...SO HELP YOU GOD?

YES.

I AM GOD.

IF I HAVE TO.

HUNGER DOG: NOT REALLY A JOINER

CHUN YULL: THE FACELESS HUNTER DON'T INVITE HIM TO POKER NIGHT

EVIL STAR: GOD COMPLEX POWER TO BACK IT UP

IS THIS PART OF MY SENTENCING?

ZUREE: SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THERE, SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT

RIDICULOUS...

KANJAR RO: DICTATOR

THERE'S A UNIVERSAL CRIMINAL CODE?

BOLPHUNGA THE UNRELENTING: DOESN'T RELENT

THE ENLISTMENT OATH OF THE U.S. ARMED SERVICES? YOU *REALLY* THINK THAT MAKES ANYTHING OFFICIAL, HAL?

LIKE I SHOULD KNOW? I'VE NEVER SWORN IN *EX-CONVICTS*, JOHN.

THANKS FOR DROPPING THESE GUYS IN OUR LAPS, BY THE WAY.

ALL RIGHT, YOU'RE THE LAST GROUP!

ASSEMBLE WITH THE OTHERS FOR PROCEDURES BRIEFING AND MISSION ASSIGNMENTS!

ON THE QUICK, DEPUTIES!

PROCEDURES? ASSIGNMENTS? *BAH!*

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY THEY DIDN'T SAY "DRESS CODE."

DID THINGS JUST GET BETTER FOR US, JOHN, OR *WORSE?*

THE KHUND AMBUSHED OUR SECTOR HOUSES. NOL-ANJ'S BRAID CLANN *DYNAMITED* OUR COMMAND CENTER.

AND THE PHONY BROADCAST THAT DURLAN *SHAPE-SHIFTER* SENT OUT--THE ONE OF YOU GETTING YOUR *FASCIST* ON?--WILL MAKE ALLIES SCARCE.

NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO TURN AWAY ABLE BODIES WILLING TO FIGHT FOR US.

NO MATTER *WHERE* THEY COME FROM.

IT'S A *WRONG* DAY WHEN WE CAN COUNT ON *FELONS* OVER FELLOW LANTERNS, *EH,* GRAF?

MEANING *WHAT,* VATH? SPEAK YOUR MIND.

WHAT LITTLE THERE IS OF IT.

A DURLAN CAN TAKE THE SHAPE OF JUST ABOUT ANYTHING. UNIFORMS AND RINGS ARE A SNAP.

ONLY ONE WAY TO TELL A *REAL* LANTERN WEARING A REAL RING: SHED SOME *LIGHT.* BUT YOU'VE *CONVENIENTLY* SWORN OFF THAT, HAVEN'T YOU?

OUR RINGS DRAIN THE RESERVOIR OF THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM. I DON'T WIELD LIGHT ON *PRINCIPLE.*

SO YOU AND YOUR OBJECTORS SAY. OR MAYBE THAT'S JUST YOUR *COVER.*

ONE SPARK. GIMME JUST *ONE.*

IF YOU CAN.

WHOMP

AW, C'MON! SEE HOW *EASY* THAT WAS?

CURSE YOU, VATH.

THE DURLANS ARE RIGHT WHERE THEY WANT TO BE-- INSIDE OUR HEADS.

VATH HAS A POINT. ROUND UP THE CIVILIAN SUPPORT STAFF, VOZ.

NO WAY THE DURLANS COULD'VE SET UP SUCH A COORDINATED STRIKE UNLESS THEY HAD AGENTS KEEPING TABS ON US.

UNTIL WE KNOW FOR SURE WHO'S WHO, ANYONE WHO CAN'T USE A RING CAN'T BE TRUSTED AS FAR AS WE CAN--

RSSSTLE

RSSSTLE

...THROW THEM?

YEALLGH!

THE HELL?

:WHUFF:

LANTERNS! TO THE TREES!

LOK?

GRNF!

DEAR GOD...

GAKKBLL!

MMRRGLL!

GRRGMMF!

WHAT IS THIS?

HOW IS THIS?

WE ARRESTED HER IN SECTOR 3014.

IT DIDN'T COME QUIETLY.

BUT WHO IS SHE?

YOU GET KONKED ON THE HEAD OR SOMETHING? SHE'S A ***RED.***

GRRGGLLL!

THERE'S ONLY A HANDFUL OF REDS, KILOWOG. GUY, RANKORR, BLEEZ...THE BEACHBALL WITH THE STUMPY LIMBS. A COUPLE OTHERS.

THIS ONE I'VE NEVER SEEN. SHE'S ***NEW.***

I DO *NOT* NEED THIS RIGHT NOW. BRINGING IN RECRUITS? WHAT ON *EARTH* IS GUY THINKING?

HE AIN'T *ON* EARTH ANYMORE.

JUST *ONE* CRISIS AT A TIME. IS THAT TOO MUCH TO ASK?

IT'S A BIG UNIVERSE. LOOK ON THE SUNNY SIDE. GUY BUILDING A BIGGER CORPS MEANS WE'VE GOT A BUNCH MORE POLICE WORK AHEAD OF US.

JOB SECURITY.

IF THERE ARE MORE OUT THERE LIKE THAT, YOU'LL WANT TO *RETIRE.*

IT'S SO JUICED UP, IT SHOT RED LIGHT FROM ITS EYES.

...DID YOU SAY *EYES?*

BLASTED AN ASTEROID TO GRAVEL.

RING, RUN SCAN. IDENTIFY.

SCAN COMPLETE.

SUBJECT IS KRYPTONIAN.

THAT'S...NOT POSSIBLE.

WHERE'S KRYPTONIA?

KRYPTON WAS IN SECTOR 2813, BUT IT ISN'T *ANYWHERE* ANYMORE. IT *DIED.*

NOT MANY OF ITS PEOPLE SURVIVED. JUST *ONE,* AS FAR AS I KNOW.

SO THIS FEMALE IS SIGNIFICANT?

A KRYPTONIAN RED IS PRETTY MUCH THE *DEADLIEST* OF ALL POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS. THIS NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH. *FAST.*

THEN LET'S DEAL WITH IT. HOLD HER DOWN WHILE I YANK HER RING OFF.

DON'T. THE TRANSFORMATION TO A RED LANTERN TAKES OVER THE VICTIM'S *HEART.* THE RING IS THE ONLY THING KEEPING HER *ALIVE* NOW.

POLICING THE USE OF THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM IS ONE THING, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO HAND OUT *DEATH* SENTENCES.

WHAT, THEN? STUFF HER IN A JAIL CELL?

I DON'T MUCH LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT. THE OTHER INMATES WON'T, EITHER.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO *CURE* HER.

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING IN THE UNIVERSE THAT CAN COMPLETELY REHABILITATE A RED LANTERN...

THANK YOU FOR SHOWING ME THIS PLACE, MOGO. ITS BEAUTY IS A SALVE FOR THE INJURED SOUL.

YOU ARE A WELCOME GUEST, SAINT WALKER. IT IS NOT OFTEN ONE SUCH AS MYSELF GETS TO SOCIALIZE WITH LESS PERMANENT LIFE FORMS.

A CELESTIAL EXISTENCE HAS ITS DISADVANTAGES.

AND A *LESS PERMANENT* ONE IS FILLED WITH REGRETS ONE HAS NOT THE TIME TO AMEND.

WALKER?

CAN WE TALK?

THAT'S WHERE YOU KEEP YOUR RING, MOGO? I ALWAYS ASSUMED IT WAS SOMEPLACE DOWN IN YOUR CORE.

SNFF SNFF

BUT THEN HOW WOULD THE TREEMUNKS PLAY WITH IT, CORPS LEADER JORDAN?

RIGHT... I GUESS THAT'S A GOOD POINT?

ANYWAY, CAN YOU LEAVE WALKER AND ME ALONE FOR A MINUTE?

I AM A PLANET. WHEREVER I GO, YOU WILL STILL BE HERE.

JUST FIND SOMETHING ELSE TO DO.

MAYBE YOU CAN TRACK DOWN THE DURLAN WHO COPIED ME? HE HAS TO BE HIDING *SOMEWHERE* ON-WORLD.

MY SURFACE IS A CACOPHONY OF LIFE.

IF I SOMETIMES SEEM...DISTRACTED, IT IS BECAUSE I CAN MONITOR THE CONSTANT ACTIVITIES OF MY INHABITANTS NO MORE EASILY THAN YOU CAN CATALOGUE THE MOVEMENTS OF BACTERIA ON YOUR SKIN.

DO NOT SEEK PRIVACY ON MY ACCOUNT, LANTERN JORDAN. WHEN IT COMES TO MOGO, I AM AN OPEN BOOK.

PLEASE. SIT.

TWO OF OUR LANTERNS PICKED UP A RED ON THEIR PATROL. A *KRYPTONIAN.* YOU HAVE TO REVERSE THE PROCESS BEFORE SHE *KILLS* SOMEONE.

I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO AID YOU--

--BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, MY RING AND I ARE NOT ON SPEAKING TERMS AT THE MOMENT.

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.

NONE OF US ENJOYED HEARING THAT OUR RINGS ARE A DRAIN ON...PRETTY MUCH EVERY-THING. WHAT WAS IT RELIC CALLED US? "AGENTS OF DECAY."

BUT THE REST OF THE BLUE LANTERNS LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES SO *YOU* COULD GO ON. AND SO *HOPE* COULD STAY ALIVE WITH YOU.

I SAY THE UNIVERSE *NEEDS* LANTERNS LIKE US. GUYS WHO WIELD LIGHT FOR THE CAUSE OF GOOD. THAT'S WHY I'M NOT PUTTING DOWN MY RING.

NOT YET.

NOR WOULD I EXPECT YOU TO. WILLFULNESS IS THE PROVINCE OF GREEN LANTERNS. *YOU* MOST OF ALL.

WHEN CONFRONTED BY TRAGEDY, YOU SOLDIER ON UNDAUNTED. EVEN WHEN --INDEED, *ESPECIALLY* WHEN--THE TRAGEDY IS OF YOUR OWN MAKING.

I LOOK AT MY RING, AND I SEE ONLY THE HARM IT CAN CAUSE. HARM THAT CAN NO LONGER BE UNDONE.

THE GREEN LIGHT OF WILL *THRIVES* ON THE INSURMOUNTABLE. IT SHINES BRIGHTEST IN THE DARK. BUT TOO MUCH DARKNESS CASTS HOPE IN *SHADOW.*

THEN WE'LL BURN AWAY THE DARKNESS UNTIL NO SHADOWS REMAIN.

IF THE UNIVERSE *ENDURES,* IT'LL BE *BECAUSE* OF WHAT HOPE AND WILL DO TOGETHER. NOT IN SPITE OF IT.

I ADMIRE YOUR... RESOLVE. BUT DO NOT WASTE LIGHT ON MY ACCOUNT.

AS A FORMER DISCIPLE OF HOPE, HEAR ME: IT WOULD BE EASIER TO SIT MOGO ON YOUR KNEE THAN TO MAKE ANOTHER BEING *FEEL* SOMETHING IT DOES *NOT.*

IF HOPE IS TO BE FOUND AGAIN, LANTERN JORDAN, IT MUST BE *I* WHO FINDS IT.

UNTIL THEN, MY ROAD WILL BE TRAVELED ALONE.

"CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME?"

I KNOW YOU CAN'T TALK, BUT HOPEFULLY YOU CAN LISTEN.

THE KRYPTONIAN I KNOW IS AN HONORABLE MAN. I CALL HIM A FRIEND, AND I LIKE TO THINK HE DOES THE SAME.

I NEED YOU TO *FIGHT* WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU. WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU *HELP.*

YOU'RE IN COMMAND WHILE I'M GONE, KILOWOG. GETTING COMMUNICATIONS BACK ONLINE IS YOUR FIRST PRIORITY.

WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL WE CAN *TALK* TO EACH OTHER.

BE NICE TO BREAK OUT THE TOOLBOX FOR A CHANGE. WISH IT WAS UNDER BETTER CIRCUMSTANCES.

RED LANTERNS AREN'T KEEN ON *GREEN,* HAL.

NOBODY WANTS TO SEE THEM LESS THAN ME, GORIN-SUNN.

I STRUCK A DEAL WITH GUY THAT HE AND THE REDS COULD HAVE A *SECTOR* TO PATROL, AND I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED *WHICH ONE* TO GIVE THEM.

WONDER IF THEY'LL SETTLE FOR THE VEGA SYSTEM...

ANYWAY, WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE. THE UNIVERSE IS IN REBELLION.

I CAN'T RISK A NEW CROP OF RED LANTERNS *TERRORIZING* ON OUR FLANK. I NEED TO KNOW WHAT GUY'S INTENTIONS ARE. *NOW.*

IT'LL ALL WORK OUT. I'VE KNOWN GUY A LONG TIME. HE MAY BE RED ON THE OUTSIDE--

SPACE SECTOR 2814.
THE PLANET YSMAULT. HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS.
WHERE ARE THE CRETINS?
YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE, IOLANDE.
I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE WHEN THEY WEREN'T STANDING AROUND THEIR BATTERY. IT'S KIND OF WHAT THEY DO.
BUT IT'S NICE TO SEE GUY'S NEW ROLE HASN'T CHANGED HIS TENDENCY TO OVER-COMPENSATE...
SUCH *PUTREFACTION.* NOTHING LIKE THE SEA OF GENERATIONS MY KIND RESIDES IN.
STRANGE...
...THEIR *SHIP* IS JUST SITTING OUT IN THE OPEN.

PROXIMITY ALERT. AUTOMATED RESPONSE ACTIVE.

ZZZ ZZZNZZT

NOT EXACTLY THE ÷NFF÷ *WELCOME* I WAS EXPECTING.

CONSIDER IT A *WARNING,* HAL. OUR WAY OF TELLING TRESPASSERS TO KEEP OFFA OUR LAWN.

OR DID YOU FORGET *SECTOR 2814* IS *RED* TURF NOW?

2814, HAL? DID YOU TELL THEM THEY COULD HAVE A SECTOR--

--OR YOUR SECTOR?

...

RED ALERT PART 2 OF 2

CHARLES SOULE writer ALESSANDRO VITTI artist GABE ELTAEB colorist DAVE SHARPE letterer
cover art by STEPHEN JORGE SEGOVIA with HI-FI

PARIS, FRANCE

SO, UH, MA'AM-- WHAT'S THE PROBLEM HERE? I'M SURE WE CAN WORK THIS OUT WITH SOME INTELLIGENT DISCOURSE...

THIS *ALIEN FILTH* HAS COME TO DEFILE OUR PLANET. I AM THE *SHADOW THIEF*, AND I *WILL NOT ALLOW IT!*

WAIT, *WHAT* WERE THEY DOING TO THE PLANET?

OH DEAR GOD.

MMMF!

WE DID NOTHING, GARDNER! WE WERE SIMPLY *TOURING* THIS STINKING PLANET OF YOURS--AS YOU *SUGGESTED*--WHEN THIS LUNATIC ATTACKED!

NOW HIT HER!!

YOU ARE FROM EARTH, AND YOU SIDE WITH THESE ALIENS? THESE *MONSTERS?* THEY DON'T *BELONG HERE.* THEY ARE NOT *PURE.*

THEY MUST DIE, AND *YOU* WILL BE NEXT IF YOU GET IN MY WAY.

LADY, SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE ALIENS.

SKALLOX AND ZILIUS ZOX HERE MIGHT NOT BE FROM EARTH, BUT THEY AREN'T *MONSTERS.* MOST OF THE TIME.

HONESTLY, YOU SOUND A LITTLE... WELL, IT'S NOT *RACIST,* EXACTLY, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY PRETTY INTOLERANT, AND I DON'T APPRECIATE THAT KIND OF HATE SPEECH.

GARDNEERRRR!!

GUY, I APPRECIATE THE EFFORT, BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST HELP YOUR FRIENDS.

NO, TORA, I TOLD YOU I COULD HANDLE THIS WITHOUT THROWING A PUNCH, AND I'M GONNA DO IT. ANGER DOESN'T RUN THE SHOW ANYMORE. *I* RUN THE SHOW. JUST WATCH--

SLASH

OUCH.

YOU ARE GETTING ON MY LAST NERVE!!

NOW LOOK. I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE LAST CHANCE HERE. LET MY FRIENDS GO, OR--

HA! OR WHAT, YOU SYMPATHIZER?!

NNAAH!

SK RRRTCH

GUY!

WELL, THAT'S ABOUT ENOUGH OF THAT.

GET THIS OFF ME, YOU IDIOT!

YOU CAN'T CUT THROUGH IT?

GUY GARDNER, IF YOU DROP ME AGAIN, I SWEAR...

NO. IT'S SHADOW. THE LIGHT MELTS AWAY!

YEAH? OKAY. TIME TO GET A LITTLE CREATIVE.

SECTOR 459. THE PLANET GROV.

NNGH!

ATROCITUS! STOP THIS! PLEASE!

YOU WISH FOR ME TO STEP IN, BLEEZ? TO *HELP* YOU? TO END THIS FIGHT BEFORE YOU AND RANKORR ARE BOTH KILLED HORRIBLY?

YOU FELT NO URGENCY TO ASSIST *ME* WHEN I WAS IN THE SAME SITUATION WITH GUY GARDNER NOT LONG AGO.

IN FACT, I BELIEVE YOU STOOD BY AND WATCHED HIM ***BEAT ME TO DEATH.***

THE ONLY ONE WHO SHOWED ME ANY LOYALTY AT ALL WAS ***DEX-STARR.***

AND SO NOW ***HE*** GETS THE REWARD HE ***DESERVES.***

HSSSSSS!

AS DO YOU, BLEEZ. I WILL ***FEED*** YOU YOUR BETRAYAL, PIECE BY PIECE.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO *DO?*

GET READY. I'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO BUY YOU A MOMENT.

NOW, BLEEZ!!!

EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!!

KRAAH

ZZAHAM

GLARRRAGCHH

MEET YOUR NEW SISTER. *KLARN.*

TERRIBLE THINGS HAPPENED TO HER. JUST *AWFUL.* BUT THEN THE RING FOUND HER, AND SHE WAS ABLE TO TAKE THE *REVENGE* THAT IS THE *RIGHT* OF ANY RED LANTERN.

IT NEVER CEASES TO FASCINATE ME HOW THE BLOOD SACRAMENT MANIFESTS ITSELF IN DIFFERENT WAYS FROM RED TO RED.

KLARN HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH THE ABILITY TO ABSORB MANY TYPES OF ENERGY. INCLUDING, QUITE USE-FULLY, *OUR OWN.*

BUT THAT IS *FAR* FROM THE BEST ASPECT OF KLARN'S GIFT.

FOR NOT ONLY CAN KLARN BRING ENERGY *IN*...

"...SHE CAN ALSO SEND IT BACK *OUT.*"

SKREEAAWW

FOLLOW MY LEAD.

WHAT LEAD? YOU DO NOTHING!

WE CAN'T HIT THE SHADOWS DIRECTLY. OKAY. BUT WE *CAN* MAKE IT *BRIGHT*.

BRIGHT *ENOUGH*... *POOF*, BYE-BYE SHADOWS.

YOU THINK MERE *LIGHT* WILL STOP ME? I AM THE SHADOW THIEF!!

YEAH, YOU SAID THAT.

WHAT NOW, GARDNER??

FIRST, LET'S GO GET ZOX.

THEN, WE LET OUR LOVE LIGHTS SHINE.

NOOOO!

THIS IS *WRONG.* DON'T YOU *UNDERSTAND?* EARTH MUST REMAIN FOR EARTHLINGS!

YOU MAY *HAVE* IT, HUMAN.

TORA, WOULD YOU DO THE HONORS HERE, PLEASE?

AH, GARDNER. YOU SILLY MAN.

SCHWOOOOSH

NNNAAARRGH!

THERE. I'VE DEACTIVATED HER SUIT. SHE'S NO LONGER A DANGER.

NO! HOW ***DARE*** YOU, ALIEN FILTH! DO NOT TOUCH ME WITH YOUR HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE CLAWS. DON'T... DON'T PUT THEM ON ME. PLEASE...LET ME TOUCH YOUR FACE. IT'S SO... ***MONSTROUS.***

LADY, ***LOOK WHAT YOU DID TO ME.*** I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A ***SPHERE.*** IF I DON'T GET MY FIGURE BACK, YOU'RE GOING TO SEE WHAT MONSTROUS ***REALLY*** LOOKS LIKE.

THAT POOR WOMAN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HER, BUT SHE'S CLEARLY INSANE.

HAPPENS A LOT. PEOPLE GET POWERS, CAN'T HANDLE IT. THEY SNAP. THAT'S WHY THERE'S SO MANY BAD GUYS AROUND. BUT THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. TO DEAL WITH STUFF LIKE THAT. NO PROBLEM.

BUT SPEAKING OF ***HERE,*** TORA...

WE'RE IN ***PARIS.*** MOST ROMANTIC TOWN AROUND, OR SO I HEAR. THAT'S GOTTA BE A SIGN.

BUY YOU DINNER?

GUY...

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I WOULD HAVE ***ANY*** INTEREST IN THAT?

LATER. APPROACHING YSMAULT.

HOLD UP, GARDNER!

JUST LEAVE HIM BE, ZILIUS. HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE ICE WOMAN LEFT HIM... *EMOTIONAL.*

BUT I...I DID WHAT I SAID I WOULD DO. THAT WHOLE THING. DIDN'T GET MAD, ALTHOUGH GOD KNOWS I WANTED TO.

DIDN'T THROW A SINGLE PUNCH. I TOLD YOU, TORA-- I'VE *CHANGED.*

GUY, FORGIVE ME--BUT *SO WHAT?*

YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE WHETHER WE'RE GOING TO BE TOGETHER--NOT ALONE. THAT'S A DECISION WE WOULD *BOTH* HAVE TO MAKE.

THE FACT THAT YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD SHOW UP HERE, HOLD YOURSELF IN CHECK FOR A FEW HOURS AND I WOULD LEAP BACK INTO YOUR ARMS...WELL.

COME ON, BABE. GIVE ME A SHOT. I *NEED* THIS-- OUT THERE...IT'S NOT EASY. I NEED A *REASON* TO KEEP IT TOGETHER.

GUY, YOU HAVE YOUR GOOD QUALITIES. BUT YOU MUST SEE WHY THE IDEA OF BEING YOUR SOLE LINK TO SANITY IS LESS THAN APPEALING TO ME. THE *WEIGHT* OF THAT--WE'D NEVER GET OUT FROM UNDER IT.

I'M SORRY. I TRULY AM. THIS ISN'T *NEVER.* IT'S JUST NOT *RIGHT NOW.*

ALERT. GREEN LANTERNS DETECTED IN PROXIMITY TO RED POWER BATTERY. ALERT.

GREENS. I THOUGHT WE WERE DONE WITH THOSE FOOLS.

NO. THIS IS PERFECT. THIS...

YSMAULT, HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS

"...THIS IS *JUST* WHAT I NEED RIGHT ABOUT NOW."

WAIT, *WHAT?* I SAID THE REDS COULD HAVE *A* SECTOR, GARDNER. I WAS GOING TO GIVE YOU 2828. I NEVER SAID YOU COULD HAVE *THIS* SECTOR. 2814? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I DIDN'T SAVE YOUR ASS FROM RELIC FOR 2828. YOU GAVE US *OUR OWN SECTOR.* THAT'S WHAT YOU AGREED TO. YSMAULT'S IN 2814. SO'S EARTH. *DONE.*

AFTER *EVERYTHING,* AFTER YOU MADE ME GIVE UP MY WHOLE *LIFE* TO COME TO THIS *ROCK?*

YOU DIDN'T LIVE UP TO *ANYTHING* YOU SAID YOU'D DO... AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA WELCH ON *THIS* TOO?

AIN'T HAPPENING. YOU WANT 2814, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BRING YOUR WHOLE DAMN CORPS TO TAKE IT BACK--

UH... WAIT.

WHO THE HELL IS *THAT?*

WE FOUND HER OUT IN SECTOR 3014. GAVE TWO OF MY GUYS A HELL OF A FIGHT BEFORE WE COULD LOCK HER DOWN. WHERE WERE YOU, ANYWAY?

EARTH.

GREAT. DOING *WHAT?*

WELL, THAT'S MY BUSINESS, ISN'T IT? WE JUST GOT THROUGH ALL THAT, JORDAN. YOU GO *DEAF* SINCE I LEFT THE GREENS?

MAYBE YOU BETTER PAY MORE ATTENTION TO *THIS* BUSINESS, GUY.

WHY IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU MAKING *NEW* REDS? THESE THINGS GO WILD WHEN THEY FIRST GET THEIR RINGS. YOU KNOW THAT. IF WE HADN'T CAUGHT HER WHEN WE DID, WHO *KNOWS* HOW MANY PEOPLE SHE COULD HAVE KILLED.

GARDNER--- WE SCANNED HER. SHE'S *KRYPTONIAN.*

THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE.* HE'S THE ONLY ONE LEFT, JORDAN. ISN'T THAT WHAT HE TOLD YOU? I CAN'T SEE A GUY LIKE HIM *LYING* ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THIS MAKES NO *SENSE.* I DIDN'T...

HE DOESN'T LIE. BUT SHE'S *STRONG.* WE COULD BARELY GET HER HERE.

WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE THIS OUT. *NOW.* I DON'T CARE *WHAT* COLOR RING WE'RE WEARING--IF WE GET *HIM* MAD AT US, WE'RE *ALL* DONE.

SKALLOX, ZOX. STOP RILING UP THE GREENS AND GET OVER HERE.

DIDN'T YOU USED TO BE... BALL-SHAPED?

PTUK

SSSSSS

PLENTY MORE WHERE *THAT* CAME FROM, GREEN. *PLENTY.*

WHO'S THE SQUARE?

B'OX.

DO ME A FAVOR, GREEN. LET B'OX KNOW ZILIUS ZOX DOESN'T MUCH CARE FOR HIS LOOK.

TELL HIM YOURSELF, TOUGH GUY.

AIN'T GOT *TIME* FOR *SQUARES.*

WHAT *IS* IT, GARDNER? THOSE GREENS *CLEARLY* WANTED TO FIGHT.

EITHER OF YOU KNOW WHERE THE HELL *SHE* CAME FROM?

RATCHET'S RING FOUND A NEW BEARER, IT SEEMS.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT TOO, BUT THE RING'S SIGNATURE DOESN'T CHECK OUT. NOT RATCHET'S, AND IT'S NOT FROM BLEEZ OR RANKORR, EITHER.
DEX-STARR, PERHAPS?
NO WAY. THAT DAMN CAT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KILL.
SHE PROBABLY JUST FOUND ONE OF THE *OTHER* RINGS.
...*WHAT* OTHER RINGS, ZILIUS?
OH YEAH, I GUESS WE NEVER TOLD YOU. JUST BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP, ATROCITUS MADE NINE NEW RINGS AND SENT THEM OUT TO FIND BEARERS.
THE IDEA WAS TO BUILD UP A LITTLE BIT AND THEN GO KILL A BUNCH OF GREENS, I THINK.
OFFENSE INTENDED.
TAKEN.
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THERE COULD BE *NINE* WILD REDS OUT THERE?
WELL, EIGHT, PROBABLY--I MEAN, THIS ONE'S *HERE.*
YOU NEED TO PUT A *LID* ON THIS, GARDNER--OR WE'LL DO IT FOR YOU.
YOU NEED TO BACK OFF, JORDAN. I *KNOW* IT'S AN ISSUE, AND *I'LL* HANDLE IT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO SOLVE EVERYONE ELSE'S PROBLEMS.
YOU AREN'T *SUPERMAN.*

SMASH

YOU WANT TO HANDLE IT?
SO *HANDLE* IT.

OKAY, YOU TWO-- COME ON.

LISTEN, KID.

IF WE GET YOU INTO THE *LAKE*, YOU'LL GET PAST SOME OF THESE BAD FEELINGS. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO *THINK* AG--

THWAM!

KRRRRASH

--STRONG.

WORTH IT.

TOLD YOU SHE'S TOUGH. WANT A HAND?

CAREFUL! SHE'S--

POP

JUST SHUT UP AND HELP ME GET HER INTO THE LAKE.

COME ON! ALL TOGETHER NOW!

ONE BIG PUSH!

RRRRAAAAAAGHH!

THERE. NOW, WE WAIT. SEE WHAT SHE'S LIKE WHEN SHE COMES UP.

IF WE'RE LUCKY, SHE WON'T JUST DECIDE TO TEAR US APART.

WHY DO YOU *HIDE*, MY CHILDREN? I JUST WANT TO OFFER YOU MY *FORGIVENESS!*

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO *DO?* HE'S GOING TO *KILL* US.

NO. HE'S NOT. NOT *BOTH* OF US.

YOU'RE *TURNING* ON ME? TO SAVE YOUR OWN MISERABLY PALE SKIN?

NO, YOU BLOODY IDIOT. I'LL HOLD THEM OFF. YOU NEED TO **GO.** AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

WHY ARE YOU *DOING* THIS FOR ME?

IT'S NOT FOR YOU. NOT *JUST* FOR YOU. IT'S FOR *ALL* OF US. GUY AND THE OTHERS. RATCHET SHOWED ME THAT. WE DON'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE.

"AND *SOMEONE* HAS TO WARN THEM THAT THIS *MONSTER* IS BACK."

I WON'T FORGET THIS. WE WILL COME FOR YOU.

I WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH. DON'T TAKE THE RISK. JUST **GO,** BLEEZ!

OI! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, YOU *PONCE!* ALWAYS WANTED TO TAKE A HAMMER TO THOSE UGLY TEETH OF YOURS. LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S *MY LUCKY DAY.*

COME FORWARD, MY SON. IT IS TIME FOR YOUR *PENANCE.*

HOW LONG DOES THIS TAKE?

SHOULDN'T BE LONG NOW. AND WHEN SHE'S UP, SHE'LL HAVE HER MIND BACK. THEN WE CAN GET SOME ANSWERS.

...

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING HER HERE.

YOU GOT IT, GUY.

FIRST GOOD DECISION I'VE MADE IN A WHILE. I DON'T KNOW, GARDNER. IT'S GETTING--

NO. YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE REALIZED IT AT THE TIME, BUT SENDING ME HERE WASN'T REALLY SUCH A BAD CALL.

YOU'RE *JOKING.*

I'M NOT. JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T ***UNDERSTAND*** THE REDS DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE EVIL. I JUST ***FIT*** HERE. I DON'T KNOW WHY. IT JUST ***WORKS.***

GOD, I'M GOING TO CATCH HELL FOR THIS.

2814. DAMMIT. BUT ***SIMON BAZ*** NEEDS TO STAY ON EARTH. CALL HIM AN AMBASSADOR IF YOU WANT, BUT I NEED A GREEN DOWN THERE.

...

I CAN LIVE WITH THAT. BUT HE ***STAYS*** ON EARTH. NO WORK IN THE REST OF THE SECTOR.

DONE.

THERE ARE PEOPLE I ***LOVE*** ON EARTH, GARDNER. KEEP THEM SAFE.

YOU KNOW I WILL. WE'VE ***BOTH*** GOT PEOPLE WE LOVE BACK THERE.

AND GET A HAIRCUT.

YOU WISH.

...PLEASE...

PLEASE... WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?

YOU'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT. IT'S ALL GONNA BE OKAY. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, GIRL?

I'M... KARA. *KARA ZOR-EL.*

WAIT...

WHAT?

A WORD, GARDNER.

I KNOW THAT NAME. I HEARD IT IN THE LEAGUE. SUPERMAN'S KRYPTONIAN NAME IS *KAL-EL.* EL'S LIKE HIS FAMILY NAME. LIKE JORDAN OR GARDNER.

YOU DON'T THINK...

I DON'T KNOW. I'M NOT SURE I *WANT* TO KNOW. BUT I THINK THAT MAYBE SUPERMAN AND THIS GIRL...

...I THINK THEY'RE *FAMILY.*

AH.

GREAT.

SJ. DeCola '13
GABE

FOREVER

CHARLES SOULE writer ALESSANDRO VITTI artist GABE ELTAEB colorist DAVE SHARPE letterer
cover art by STEPHEN JORGE SEGOVIA with GABE ELTAEB

YSMAULT: HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS

THIS BEAUTIFUL MACHINE LAUNCHES MISSILES TIPPED WITH A TOUCH OF NEUTRON STAR CORE MATTER.

JUST A TINY SPIKE--A FEW MICRONS ACROSS--ANY MORE, AND THE WEAPON WOULD BE TOO HEAVY FOR ANY REASONABLE AMOUNT OF FUEL TO LIFT.

BUT AS THE TIP OF THE SPEAR, IT PROVIDES AN INCREDIBLE INITIAL PUNCH, OPENING A HOLE FOR THE REST OF THE MISSILE TO SURGE THROUGH AND...THAT'S IT, ZILIUS ZOX. THE END.

IT IS MY FAVORITE THING. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A SUITABLE TARGET EVER SINCE I FOUND IT IN THE KAALVAR ARMORY, BUT NOTHING HAS PRESENTED ITSELF UNTIL NOW. THIS IS A WONDERFUL DAY.

LISTEN, SKALLOX--I'M NOT SURE THIS IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA...

WHAT?

WELL, IF THESE THINGS ARE THAT POWERFUL, DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD--

ZOX, IT WAS HER IDEA. AND DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE IF SHE'S REALLY AS STRONG AS SHE SEEMS? WE CAN TEST TWO WEAPONS AT ONCE!

KLIK

YES!!

UHHH...

THWOOOSH!!

COME ON!!!

KRAAH!

ZZZZAKKK

BOOOOOM

OH N--

UGH. I TOLD YOU, SKALLOX!
AH... PERHAPS I--
YAAAAAAH!
BEAUTIFUL.
INCREDIBLE, KARA! THOSE MISSILES WOULD HAVE TAKEN OUT A--
NO!
HA!
BOOOOM

WHAT IS *THIS?*

THIS IS THE BAR.

"THE BAR"?

WE CAN'T AGREE ON A NAME.

I LOVE IT.

WHAT HAPPENED THERE? FIGHT?

NO. ZOX OVERDID IT.

I'M GONNA FIX THAT.

I WISH YOU HADN'T DESTROYED MY FAVORITE THING, KARA.

I'M SORRY. I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. I DIDN'T ***MEAN*** TO-- I KNEW THERE WASN'T ANY ***REASON*** TO BE SO ANGRY, BUT I DIDN'T CARE. I WANTED TO STAY MAD. AS LONG AS I COULD.

THAT'S THE RING. IT CAN BE TRICKY. YOU GET BETTER AT IT OVER TIME.

NO MATTER. THERE ARE ALWAYS MORE WEAPONS.

AND I WOULD TRADE A ***HUNDRED*** MISSILES FOR A RED OF ***YOUR*** STRENGTH.

TO THE NEWEST RED LANTERN...KARA ZOR-EL!

AGREED!

...THANK YOU. I--

YEAAAH... HOLD UP.

YOU'RE GIVING HER *BOOZE*, SKALLOX? SHE'S JUST A KID.

NO. I'M REALLY NOT.

SHE IS AS STRONG AS ANY OF US, GARDNER. STRONGER, IN SOME WAYS.

THAT, I AGREE WITH. I'M *KRYPTONIAN*, GARDNER.

ONE, SKALLOX HAS A PRETTY HEAVY POUR. *TWO*, YOU'RE TOO *YOUNG*.

THAT IS EARTH *NONSENSE*.

YOU'RE NOT MY PARENT, GUY GARDNER, AND FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, YOU DON'T EVEN LEAD THIS TEAM. THERE *IS* NO LEADER.

REDS MAKE DECISIONS FOR THEMSELVES.

MY ENTIRE PLANET WAS DESTROYED. MY CIVILIZATION IS *GONE*. THAT MAKES YOU GROW UP FAST.

AND IF I WANT THIS... STUFF, I'LL *HAVE*--

SMASH

OH--I'M SO SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

IT'S FINE.

NO, LET ME...MAYBE I CAN...

I SAID IT'S *FINE.*

COME ON. WE'RE GOING ON PATROL.

WE... ARE?

EARTH? I JUST *LEFT* EARTH. WHY ARE WE *HERE?*

REDS DON'T HAVE MANY RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT WE *DO* HAVE A SECTOR TO PATROL--2814. EARTH'S IN IT. SO, WE CHECK IN, MAKE SURE EVERYTHING'S COPACETIC.

WE AIN'T MOVIN' IN, DON'T WORRY.

BUT YOU *CAN* DO ME A FAVOR, IF YOU WANT. WE GOT A WEIRD REPORT ABOUT SOMETHING HIDDEN ON THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON. SOME SORT OF BASE.

CAN YOU CHECK IT OUT FOR US? YOU'RE THE FASTEST. THAT'LL BE EFFICIENT--GET US OUT OF HERE THAT MUCH SOONER.

SURE, GARDNER. HAPPY TO HELP.

WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT, GARDNER? THE MOON?

IT WAS A DISTRACTION. I NEEDED TO TALK TO YOU GUYS FOR A SECOND, AND IF SHE'S LIKE HER COUSIN, SHE'S GOT *CRAZY* GOOD HEARING.

SOUND DOESN'T TRAVEL IN VACUUM. THE RINGS DO THE TALKING. AND SINCE WHEN DO WE GO ON *PATROL?*

JUST *LISTEN,* ZZ. WE CAN'T HANDLE THIS. WE *CAN'T.* TEENAGE KRYPTONIAN RED LANTERN? COME ON. THAT'S *TOO MUCH.*

WHAT? IMPOSSIBLE. WE HAVE COME INTO EXTRAORDINARY GOOD FORTUNE, AND YOU WOULD *THROW IT AWAY?*

JUST FOR NOW. WE HAVE *THINGS TO DO.* WE CAN'T GET DISTRACTED, AND SHE IS ONE *HUGE* DISTRACTION.

I THINK I AGREE WITH GUY HERE, SKALLOX.

CAN YOU TWO DISTRACT *HER* FOR A WHILE? TAKE HER AROUND, CHECK OUT "SUSPICIOUS LOCATIONS"... YOU KNOW. I'LL CALL WHEN I'M READY.

FINE. PERHAPS I WILL SEEK OUT THAT SHADOW THIEF WOMAN. SHE SEEMED... *INTRIGUED* BY ME.

SHE'S A *LUNATIC,* SKALLOX. A *DISASTER.*

THAT HAS ITS ATTRACTIONS. BESIDES, FROM WHAT I SAW *LAST* TIME...

"...YOU COULD SAY THAT ABOUT THIS ENTIRE *PLANET.*"

INDONESIA

FIRST WAVE'S ALREADY HIT--CAME OUT OF NOWHERE. ANOTHER SURGE COULD BE HERE AT ANY TIME.

SSSSSLLLLL

HAVE TO GET THESE PEOPLE OUT OF HERE.

DON'T WORRY, FOLKS, I HAVE YOU.

RRRRRRMMMMMMBBBLL

RRRRRRRMMMMMBBBLLL

THE NEXT TSUNAMI'S COMING IN--I CAN HEAR IT...

RRRRRRMMMMMBBBLLL

<ALLAH, MAKE IT SWIFT.>

OH NO.

KKARRRSH

THOUGHT YOU COULD USE A HAND.

...THANK YOU. LET'S GET THESE PEOPLE DOWN.

HAVE WE MET? YOU'RE ONE OF HAL JORDAN'S PEOPLE, RIGHT?

I *WORKED* WITH HAL. I WAS NEVER ONE OF HIS PEOPLE. NAME'S *GUY GARDNER.*

USED TO BE ON THE *JLI.* MAYBE THAT'S HOW YOU KNOW ME.

ARE YOU A LANTERN? I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE UNIFORM.

I AM. A *RED.*

RED? HAL TOLD ME THEY WERE...AH...

WELL, AT ANY RATE, THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE ASSIST.

WHY *WOULDN'T* I HELP? IT'S MY JOB.

EXCUSE ME?

EARTH. THIS WHOLE SPACE SECTOR, 2814. THE REDS PATROL IT NOW.

BUT HAL SAID THE REDS WERE... FORGIVE ME, BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE VERY MANY KIND THINGS TO SAY ABOUT YOUR GROUP.

HEH. I BET HE DIDN'T.

I *SUPPOSE* HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.

LISTEN, PAL, *I* KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

LISTEN, *PAL,* NOT *MY* BUSINESS. YOU HELPED ME HERE. I JUDGE PEOPLE BASED ON WHAT THEY *DO,* NOT WHAT PEOPLE *SAY* ABOUT THEM. RED, GREEN, PURPLE...DO THE RIGHT THING AND YOU'RE ALL RIGHT IN MY BOOK.

LOOK, IT WAS GOOD TO MEET YOU, AND I *AM* GRATEFUL, BUT I'VE GOT SOMEWHERE TO BE--YOU KNOW HOW IT IS.

MEETING UP WITH WONDER WOMAN? FROM ONE GUY TO ANOTHER, LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU ON THAT ONE. IMPRESSIVE LADY RIGHT THERE.

MY MAN, OUR LITTLE CLUB'S NOT THAT BIG. WORD TRAVELS.

NO...WE'RE SEEING EACH OTHER LATER--WAIT, HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT? DON'T YOU LIVE IN *SPACE?*

BARRY? I'M SURE IT WAS BARRY.

ALL RIGHT. SEE YOU AGAIN, GUY GARDNER.

HOLD UP. THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT--

DO YOU THINK I'M SOME KIND OF *IDIOT?*

WHAT IN THE NAME OF--

DAMMIT.

KARA... WHAT *HAPPENED* TO YOU?

SORRY, GARDNER. WE TRIED TO KEEP HER BUSY, BUT SHE SORT OF... DOES WHAT SHE WANTS.

WAS THIS YOUR PLAN *ALL ALONG?*

LISTEN, ER, SUPERMAN, *THIS* IS WHAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

WHAT DID YOU *DO* TO HER? THAT'S *MY COUSIN!*

WE DIDN'T *DO* A *DAMN THING.* YOU CAN'T JUST *MAKE* SOMEONE A RED. THE RING FINDS *YOU.* KARA'S GOT SOMETHING MAJOR TO WORK THROUGH, OR THE RING WOULDN'T HAVE COME TO HER.

NOW HOW ABOUT WE TRY A LITTLE *HANDS OFF,* BEFORE YOU GET YOURSELF IN *TROUBLE?*

TAKE OFF THE RING, KARA. THIS ISN'T WHO YOU ARE.

YOU DON'T KNOW *ANYTHING* ABOUT WHO I AM, KAL.

SHE CAN'T TAKE IT OFF. THE RING BONDS WITH ITS HOSTS, REPLACES THEIR *HEARTS*--IF SHE TAKES IT OFF, SHE'LL DIE. SHE'S RED *FOREVER.*

WHAT?

FOREVER?

A *BLUE* LANTERN COULD REMOVE A RED RING, BUT THEY'RE ALL GONE. KARA IS ONE OF US NOW--AND WE'RE GLAD TO--

FOREVER?!

I CAN TALK TO HER.

YOU'VE DONE *PLENTY*, GARDNER. JORDAN WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU.

I'LL TALK TO HER.

KARA--COME ON. WE CAN *FIX* THIS. I CAN GO TO THE LEAGUE. OR *SHAY VERITAS* MIGHT--

THWAMM

OOOF!

HEH.

GREAT WORK, PAL!

HEH.

UHHH...

SSSSHHHHHHHRRRRMMMBBBLLL

SSSSSLLLAKKKKKK!

HHHH

I'M NOT A PIECE OF LUGGAGE. I'M NOT A *PROBLEM* FOR THE GROWNUPS TO SOLVE.

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. WE ALL JUST WANT TO HELP YOU.

YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN. WHO SAYS I NEED ANY *HELP?*

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T *CARE* THAT I CAN'T GET THIS OFF.

MAYBE I *SHOULD* STAY THIS WAY!

MAYBE THAT'S *HEALTHY!*

THEY DON'T *REPRESS* HOW THEY FEEL. THEY LIVE HOW THEY WANT, AND THEY DON'T *CARE* WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF THEM. IF PEOPLE DON'T LIKE THEM, THAT'S NOT THE *REDS'* PROBLEM.

YES!

UH-OH.

YOU KNOW WHAT, KARA? EVER SINCE YOU SHOWED UP ON EARTH, YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET ME TO DO *ONE THING*--LEAVE YOU *ALONE* TO LET YOU LIVE YOUR *OWN* LIFE.

YOU'VE BEEN SO FOCUSED ON JUST BEING *ANGRY*--YES, YOU LOST YOUR HOME, AND THAT'S TERRIBLE, BUT *YOU CAN'T BRING IT BACK.*

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

YOU'VE BEEN CHOOSING *ANGER* INSTEAD OF *ACCEPTANCE* FOR SO LONG THAT YOU'VE *BECOME* ANGER.

YOU WANT TO BE YOUR OWN PERSON? GOOD. *BE* YOUR OWN PERSON.

I JUST HOPE YOU LIKE WHO YOU TURN OUT TO BE.

I CAN'T KEEP HER IF SHE DOESN'T WANT TO STAY. I APPRECIATE WHY YOU BROUGHT HER TO ME, GARDNER, BUT SHE'S RIGHT.

NO, LISTEN, SHE *SHOULD* BE WITH YOU. WE'RE TRYING TO BE BETTER, BUT EVEN AT OUR *BEST* WE AREN'T EXACTLY ROLE MODELS.

SHE DOESN'T *WANT* A ROLE MODEL. I'VE TRIED TO HELP HER. SHE JUST THROWS IT BACK AT ME. SHE'LL HAVE TO WORK THROUGH THIS ON HER OWN.

THAT SAID.

YOU NEED TO *REASSURE* ME HERE, GARDNER. THIS WHOLE SITUATION IS *DANGEROUS. MY COUSIN,* WITH THAT *RING...*

AND YES, KARA, I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME.

IF SHE'S GOING TO STAY WITH YOU...YOU'LL HAVE TO DO A LOT MORE THAN "TRY" TO BE BETTER.

SUPERMAN...

I TELL MYSELF THAT EVERY DAMN DAY.

HAL JORDAN HAD *NOTHING* GOOD TO SAY ABOUT THE RED LANTERNS. BUT I FORM MY OWN OPINIONS.

I'LL *TRUST* YOU ON THIS. AS FAR AS I CAN--WHICH MEANS I'LL BE *WATCHING,* AND IF THINGS GO SOUTH...

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT *RINGS.*

IT'S ABOUT *FAMILY.*

WE *ARE* A FAMILY. WAKE UP.

...EXCUSE ME, AH...?

ZILIUS ZOX. YOU HEARD ME. YOU DON'T OWN HER. ALSO-- NICE *CAPE.*

BALLSY LITTLE THING.

YEP.

GOODBYE, COUSIN. I'LL SEE YOU--

WHEN YOU SEE ME. GOODBYE, COUSIN.

CRIPES.

WHEN DO *I* GET A STATUE? IS THAT A THING?

GET RID OF A SPACE HITLER. THEN WE'LL SEE.

GREAT. WHEN DO WE START?

I *LOVE* THIS ONE.

HUH-- WHAT'S *THAT?*

LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING HIT THE SURFACE.

METEORITE?

DON'T BET ON IT. IT'S *NEVER* JUST A METEORITE.

I'LL CHECK IT OUT.

KARA! HOLD UP, GIRL!

DON'T WORRY! I'VE *GOT* IT!

UHH... I...

BLEEZ...

WHAT *HAPPENED?* WHERE'S *RANKORR?*

A--A--

ATROCITUS.

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON PART 2: RED REMEMBRANCE

TONY BEDARD writer EMANUELA LUPACCHINO with YILDIRAY CINAR (pgs 171-174) and DIOGENES NEVES (pgs 177-179) pencillers
RAY McCARTHY and MARK DEERING (pgs 177-179) inkers HI-FI colorist TAYLOR ESPOSITO letterer cover art by KENNETH ROCAFORT

PLANET GRAX.
SPACE SECTOR 2814.
COMMAND CENTRAL, THIS IS BATTALION 24! WE ARE BEING OVERRUN!
REPEAT-- ARTILLERY IS NOT SLOWING THE INVADERS DOWN AT ALL!
REQUEST IMMEDIATE REINFORCEMENTS!
REQUEST DENIED, 24. ALL ASSETS CURRENTLY DEPLOYED. THEY'RE HITTING EVERY CITY ON GRAX.
KEEP FIGHTING AND PRAY TO KAVA SOMETHING WORKS!

MOMMY! MOMMY, WHY?!

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?!

BECAUSE YOU ARE WEAK.

AND THE UNIVERSE DOES NOT ABIDE WEAKNESS.

MY PEOPLE WERE ONCE LIKE YOURS.

WHEN WE LOST OUR HOMEWORLD, WE WERE SCATTERED TO THE STARS.

BUT SOMEONE TAUGHT US TO TURN LOSS INTO STRENGTH. NOW WE BRING THAT GIFT OF LOSS TO YOU.

I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

ONE DAY, WHAT'S LEFT OF YOUR PEOPLE WILL LOOK BACK AND REALIZE WE DID YOU A FAVOR...

LOSS. THE STORY OF MY LIFE.

AND ANYONE WHO CALLS SUCH LOSS A GIFT IS NO FRIEND OF MINE.

GET AWAY FROM HER!

MY NAME IS KARA ZOR-EL. I'M FROM A LONG-DEAD PLANET CALLED KRYPTON.

ON EARTH THEY CALLED ME "SUPERGIRL" BECAUSE I COULD DO ALMOST ANYTHING--ANYTHING EXCEPT FIT IN.

BUT THOSE DAYS OF LOSS AND LONELINESS ARE BEHIND ME NOW. I'VE FINALLY FOUND WHERE I BELONG.

I BELONG IN THE RED LANTERN CORPS.

THE RED RING ON MY FIST CHOSE ME. IT MADE ME PART OF A TEAM.

WE SEEK OUT INJUSTICE AND WE PUNCH IT IN THE TEETH.

AND IT FEELS GOOD.

WHAM

YOU.

FIND SOMEPLACE TO HIDE.

BUT MY MOM--

YOUR MOTHER IS DEAD! NOW RUN FOR YOUR LIFE.

YOU COULDN'T PUT THAT MORE GENTLY?

SERIOUSLY, NEW GIRL? GENTLY?

WHATEVER, SKALLOX. YOU WANT TO SCARE SOMEONE? SAVE IT FOR THESE INVADERS.

WHAT WE DO IS NOT ABOUT FEAR, KARA.

ZILIUS ZOX, WOULD YOU EXPLAIN TO HER WHAT--

UM, THAT'S GONNA HAVE TO WAIT...

RAGE-LANTERNS!

THIS IS NOT YOUR FIGHT!

DO NOT INTERFERE!

KKAUURGGH!

OH, WE'RE INTERFERING, ALL RIGHT...

GURK

THEY JUST KEEP COMING!

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

THEY CALL THEMSELVES DIASPORANS!

AND THAT BETTER NOT BE FEAR I HEAR IN YOUR VOICE!

YOU ARE A RED LANTERN! START ACTING LIKE IT!

SHOW ME YOUR POWER, KARA ZOR-EL! SHOW ME YOUR RAGE!

FINE, SKALLOX! YOU WANT TO SEE ME GET MAD?

WATCH THIS!

WHAP-PAP-SMAK

KRAK

MAD ENOUGH FOR YOU?

SO WHAT IF SKALLOX WAS TRYING TO GOAD ME?

IF HE WANTS TO QUESTION MY RAGE, HE HAS A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT MY LIFE.

BEHOLD, ZILIUS ZOX-- *THAT* IS A RED LANTERN.

SHE'S JUST USING HER *OWN* POWERS INSTEAD OF HER RING.

KBUHOOM

SZZZ-BAM

THE TRANSPORT IS *DOWN!*

FALL BACK TO THE NEXT EXTRACTION POINT!

FALL BACK!

THEY'RE *RETREATING!*

YOU DID IT! YOU *SAVED* US!

KAVA BLESS THE *RED LANTERNS!*

Y'HEAR THAT, GIRL? THEY'RE CHEERING FOR *YOU.*

SO IT TOOK THE *RED RING OF RAGE* FOR ME TO FINALLY FIND ACCEPTANCE. SO WHAT?

THIS PLANET WILL LIVE. AND I WILL *PUMMEL* ANYONE WHO SAYS OTHERWISE.

PLANET EARTH. THE BLOCK. MONITOR/RESEARCH FACILITY FOR STRANGE ANOMALIES.

THIS IS **DOCTOR VERITAS** TO ALL SEARCH TEAMS. I WANT YOU TO MAINTAIN **OPEN COMMS,** UNDERSTOOD?

OUR **ESCAPEE** CALLS HERSELF **BLAZE.** SHE IS HIGHLY DANGEROUS AND ANNOYINGLY **INVISIBLE** TO SENSORS.

TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW HER FULL CAPABILITIES.

WE NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO PROPERLY TEST HER AFTER WE ACCIDENTALLY BROUGHT HER ABOARD--

--ALONG WITH A CHUNK OF HER HOME DIMENSION.

LEVEL 2--POWER PLANT.

"HER"...? I THOUGHT WE WERE HUNTING FOR AN "IT."

SHE **LOOKS** FEMALE, BUT WHO REALLY KNOWS IF GENDER EVEN **APPLIES** TO A DEMON FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION?

DEMON. GREAT.

WE'LL KEEP OUR COMMS **AND** OUR EYES OPEN.

STAY SAFE. VERITAS OUT.

SHIFT

Blaze. Smells. Knowledge.

SNIFF

Cannot. Access.

Change. Form.

Transmute.

Form. Better.

Like. Home.

Now. Serve. Blaze.

Find. Angry. Girl.

"Super. Girl."

"Banshee."

Ah. There.

New. York.

DOCTOR VERITAS? I'VE GOT AN UNAUTHORIZED DOWNLOAD FROM A WORKSTATION ON LEVEL TWO, BUT IT'S REALLY WEIRD--LIKE SOMEONE ALTERED THE NETWORK.

WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN BY--

--"WEIRD"?

WHAT WAS THAT? WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

FELT LIKE TELEPORTATION FEEDBACK.

THIS PLACE STRETCHES THE FABRIC OF REALITY TO ITS BREAKING POINT. SOMETIMES THAT FABRIC HICCUPS WHEN SOMETHING LEAVES.

GUESS WE CAN ADD BENDING SPACE TO BLAZE'S POWER SET.

SHE MUST HAVE REALIZED SHE COULD LEAVE THE BLOCK ONCE SHE ESCAPED HER CONTAINMENT UNIT.

"AND THERE'S NO TELLING WHERE IN THE UNIVERSE SHE'S GONE NOW."

SHIFT

QUEENS, NY.

PLANET YSMAULT.
HOME OF THE RED LANTERN CORPS.

...SHOULD'VE *SEEN* HOW THE KID WALLOPED THOSE LIZARDS!

RED LANTERN MEDICAL BAY.

YOU *CAN'T* STILL WANT HER OFF THE TEAM, GARDNER--!

WELL, YEAH, ACTUALLY--I *DO*. BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, SHE SOUNDS LIKE A *HEAVY HITTER*.

INDEED SHE *IS*, GUY.

JEEZ, SKALLOX, YOU TWO GETTIN' A *CRUSH* ON HER?

MEH. NOT *NEARLY* SPHERICAL ENOUGH.

I'M GONNA GO TALK TO THE KID. YOU TWO STAY HERE AND KEEP AN EYE ON *BLEEZ*.

LET ME KNOW THE SECOND SHE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS. IF *ATROCITUS* IS REALLY STILL ALIVE, SHE NEEDS TO TELL US WHERE SHE *SAW* HIM.

IF HE *IS* ALIVE, WE SHALL NEED THE *KRYPTONIAN* MORE THAN EVER.

THE BOYS SAID YOU DID *GOOD*, KARA.

WE FORCED THE DIASPORANS TO RETREAT, BUT THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE SOMEWHERE.

THEY'LL STRIKE *AGAIN* IF WE DON'T FIND THEM FIRST.

DON'T WORRY, WE'LL GO AFTER 'EM.

SOON AS WE DEAL WITH *ATROCITUS*.

SOON ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH.

IT'S GONNA *HAVE* TO BE.

YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND. THE DIASPORANS ARE TOO MUCH LIKE *ANOTHER* GROUP OF COSMIC KILLERS WHO CAME AFTER ME NOT SO LONG AGO.

THE *MEMORY* OF THEM CAME ROARING BACK WHEN YOU FORCED ME DOWN INTO THIS *LAKE*...

"I REMEMBER FEELING FRIGHTENED OF *MYSELF*, BREATHING FIRE AND LASHING OUT AT *EVERYTHING*.

"IT TOOK *ALL* OF YOU TO WRESTLE ME DOWN INTO THE *BLOOD OCEAN*, EVEN THOUGH I WAS HOLDING BACK--*AFRAID* TO UNLEASH MY FULL FURY...

"...BUT ONCE YOU THREW ME IN, THE BLOOD WORKED ITS *MAGIC*.

"THE POUNDING *DRUMBEAT* IN MY HEAD CALMED TO *STATIC*...

"...AND THEN THE *MEMORIES* CAME BUBBLING UP, *CALLING* TO ME, PULLING ME BACK TOWARD...I DON'T KNOW...TOWARD *SANITY*, I GUESS.

"I REMEMBER SEEING MY FATHER, THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST *ZOR-EL*. HE WAS ALWAYS EXPERIMENTING ON SOMETHING OR OTHER IN HIS *LAB* WHILE MOTHER HELPED SAFEGUARD OUR CITY."

"THEN I SAW THE *LIVING WEAPONS* WHO CALLED THEMSELVES THE *WORLDKILLERS*, AFTER THE MONSTERS OF KRYPTON'S PAST.

"*THEY* WERE THE ONES WHO CAME AFTER ME ON EARTH--THE ONES THE *DIASPORANS* REMIND ME OF.

"HOW COULD ANYONE MAKE IT THEIR MISSION IN LIFE TO *MURDER* WHOLE WORLDS? CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT AN *ABOMINATION* THAT IS TO AN ORPHAN FROM A DEAD PLANET?

"THE *WORLDKILLERS* SAID THEY WERE ENGINEERED ON *KRYPTON*. I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE THAT, BUT THERE'S SO MUCH ABOUT MY HOMEWORLD I STILL DO NOT KNOW.

"LIKE WHAT HAPPENED IN THE MINUTES BEFORE I WAS LAUNCHED INTO SPACE.

"I WONDER IF MOTHER SAID GOODBYE WHILE I SLEPT.

"I WONDER IF SHE AND FATHER *ARGUED* OVER WHETHER TO SEND ME AWAY, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO *SAVE* MY LIFE."

"AND NOW KRYPTON'S LOST FOREVER. THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO TO SAVE IT, BUT IF FEELS LIKE I'LL BE TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR THAT THE REST OF MY LIFE.

"LIKE WHEN I SAVED EARTH FROM THE WORLDKILLERS. IT WAS *FOUR* AGAINST ONE, ALL OF THEM STRONG AS ME AND BETTER TRAINED. I DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.

THE *TERROR* OF WHAT THEY COULD *DO* TO ME--AND TO EVERYONE *ELSE* IF I SHOULD FALL--IT ALMOST SHUT ME DOWN.

"BUT THEN I THOUGHT OF *MOTHER*. I REMEMBERED ALL I HAD TO LIVE UP TO.

"A DAUGHTER OF THE HOUSE OF EL NEVER QUITS. I WASN'T ABOUT TO BE THE FIRST.

"THE WORLDKILLERS KEPT TAUNTING ME, SAYING *ONLY A WORLDKILLER CAN KILL A WORLDKILLER.* THEY WERE TRYING TO MAKE ME LOSE HOPE, BUT IT GAVE ME AN *IDEA.*

"I USED THEIR OWN BODIES AGAINST EACH OTHER--CLAWS AND TEETH AND POISON BARBS. THEY *RAN* ONCE THEY SAW I COULD ACTUALLY *HURT* THEM.

"BUT THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE SOMEWHERE. THEM, THE DIASPORANS, AND WHO KNOWS HOW MANY OTHER MANIACS...?"

BUT NOW I HAVE THE POWER, THE RING, AND THE MISSION TO STOP THEIR KIND FROM HURTING ANYONE ELSE.

LOOK... KARA...

...*MOST* OF US TOOK THAT PLUNGE TO GET OUR HEADS STRAIGHT. THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT YOU'LL SEE DOWN THERE.

ALL I CAN PROMISE YOU IS THAT AS SOON AS WE HANDLE THIS SITUATION ***BLEEZ*** BROUGHT TO OUR DOOR, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE DIASPORANS--

--AND ANYONE ***ELSE*** LIKE THEM STUPID ENOUGH TO WANDER INTO OUR SECTOR. DEAL?

I...***FINE.*** WE'LL DO IT YOUR WAY.

I JUST NEEDED TO LET YOU KNOW HOW ***BAD*** I NEED TO STOP THEM...

THIS WORLD-KILLING STUFF...IT HITS A NERVE. IT MAKES ME ***FURIOUS,*** AND THE ***RING*** JUST FANS THE FLAME!

I MAY HAVE GONE INTO THAT LAKE OF BLOOD ***AFRAID*** OF WHAT THIS RING MIGHT UNLEASH IN ME--

--BUT IT'S EVERYONE ***ELSE*** WHO SHOULD BE AFRAID! WE ARE GOING TO ***BURN*** THIS SECTOR ***CLEAN!***

THE DIASPORAN HORDE.
47 PARSECS FROM GRAX.

KA-BLAM

MY LORD.
THE RED LANTERNS HAVE INTERFERED WITH OUR SACRED MISSION...

...THEY FORCED US TO WITHDRAW FROM GRAX BEFORE WE COULD COMPLETE THE TASK YOU SET BEFORE US.

IF I HAVE DISAPPOINTED YOU, I AM PREPARED TO PAY WITH MY LIFE.

IT ISN'T ME YOU DISAPPOINT, GENERAL HOM. YOU WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO SOMEONE? GO TELL THE GRAX.

THEY ARE THE ONES WHO WERE DENIED THE GIFT WE OFFER.

I HAVE. THE FOREIGN D.N.A. I SCAN CONFIRMS IT.

YOU BRUSHED UP AGAINST A REAL LIVE KRYPTONIAN.

A RED LANTERN KRYPTONIAN, NO LESS.

ONE OTHER THING--THERE WAS A YOUNG RED LANTERN WHOSE POWER DWARFED THE OTHERS.

WE HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED ANYTHING QUITE LIKE HER.

KRYPTONIANS ARE THE EMBODIMENT OF WHAT WE DO, GENERAL HOM.

THEY LOST THEIR HOMEWORLD. IT MADE THEM STRONG.

AND THIS KRYPTONIAN IS GOING TO HELP US BRING THAT KIND OF STRENGTH TO THE REST OF THE UNIVERSE.

CHARLES SOULE writer | CALAFIORE ALESSANDRO VITTI (97-100, 106-109) artists | GABE ELTAEB colorist | DAVE SHARPE letterer
Cover art by ALESSANDRO VITTI with GABE ELTAEB

SECTOR 775: THE PLANET PRIMEEN

WELCOME, SHEKO. JUDGE THEM FAIRLY AND WELL. LONG MAY YOU SIT.

THANK YOU, MY KING.

THAT IS MY INTENTION.

SHEKO. THE YOUNGEST EVER TO SERVE AS ***LEGATOR*** OF THE ***WATER COURT,*** EMPOWERED TO SIT IN ***JUDGMENT*** OVER THE MOST MOMENTOUS QUESTIONS OF ***JUSTICE*** FACED BY HER PEOPLE.

THE ***WATER COURT.*** WHERE THE LEGATORS SIT EXPOSED TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE THEIR JUDGMENT, WITH NO ARTIFICIAL DIVISION BETWEEN THE ACCUSED AND THEIR ARBITER.

THE BENCH IS UNCOMFORTABLE. THIS IS INTENTIONAL. SERVING IN THE COURT SHOULD NEVER BECOME AN ***EASY*** THING.

HO, PARTHU. HOW DO YOU PROPOSE I DO THE JOB TODAY?

AS EVER, LEGATOR. FAIRLY AND WELL.

FAIRLY AND WELL, THEN.

AFTER JUST A FEW HOURS, SHEKO'S BACK SCREAMS AT HER.

AFTER ***DECADES...***

JUDGMENT DAY PART 1 OF 3

...SHE NO LONGER NOTICES HER BACK AT ALL.

THE PAIN COMES FROM ANOTHER SOURCE.

HO, PARTHU.

FAIRLY AND WELL, LEGATOR.

TODAY MORE THAN ANY OTHER, I THINK.

THANK YOU, PARTHU. FOR EVERYTHING.

OVER THE DECADES, THE *CLARITY* SYMBOLIZED BY THE WATERS OF SHEKO'S COURT HAS VANISHED. THE *TRUTH ITSELF* HAS BECOME OPAQUE.

THE LAW ON PRIMEEN IS APPLICABLE TO ANY CITIZEN IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE POWER, WEALTH AND RANK WITH WHICH THEY CONFRONT IT.

JUSTICE IS SIMPLY A *CONVENIENCE.* A CONCEPT FOR PHILOSOPHERS. A THING WITH A *PRICE.*

WHAT ROLE FOR A JUDGE IN SUCH A PLACE? NONE. A NOD TO RITUAL. TO EARLIER TIMES. A RELIC.

PRINCE KARSIK, YOU ARE ACCUSED OF MULTIPLE COUNTS OF *MURDER, ASSAULT* AND *OBSCENITIES* ALMOST BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS COURT TO COMPREHEND.

THE ALLEGATIONS ARE IN THE RECORD. I WILL NOT TAKE UP ADDITIONAL TIME REPEATING THEM NOW.

THANK YOU, LEGATOR. I'M SURE NO ONE WISHES TO HEAR THAT *NONSENSE* AGAIN.

SOME MIGHT HAVE LEFT THE BENCH, BUT SHEKO CHOSE TO *STAY.* AT LEAST SHE COULD *REMEMBER* JUSTICE. THE SAME MIGHT NOT BE TRUE OF HER SUCCESSOR.

AND SO SHE WENT ON.

UNTIL THE DAY THE MONSTROUS HABITS OF THE KING'S *SON,* THE ABOMINABLE *PRINCE KARSIK,* WERE FINALLY *EXPOSED,* IN A MANNER TOO PUBLIC FOR EVEN THE *KING* TO IGNORE, LEST THE POPULACE RISE UP AGAINST HIM.

ALL ARGUMENTS HAVE BEEN HEARD. IT IS TIME FOR JUDGMENT.

AT *LAST!* PLEASE PROCEED.

SHEKO HAD FOUND HER MOMENT. THE WORLD WOULD *REMEMBER.*

LET IT BE ENTERED INTO THE RECORD. THIS COURT FINDS PRINCE KARSIK *GUILTY* OF ALL CRIMES OF WHICH HE IS ACCUSED, AND UNDOUBTEDLY MANY MORE.

JUSTICE HAS *NOT* FLED FROM PRIMEEN. THE PRINCE WILL BE *EXECUTED,* AND REPARATIONS WILL BE MADE TO HIS VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES. SENTENCE TO BE CARRIED OUT *IMMEDIATELY.*

OFFICER PARTHU, PLEASE DO YOUR DUTY.

YES, LEGATOR.

WHAT? THIS IS *RIDICULOUS!* NO!

OH, SHEKO. I HAD HOPED FOR MORE FROM YOU.

TURN OFF THE CAMERAS. *PURGE* THEIR DATAFILES.

DONE, MY KING.

I AM SO SORRY, LEGATOR. IT HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLE HONOR.

WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT, PARTHU?

FAIRLY AND WELL.

OH. THEY BOUGHT YOU TOO, DIDN'T THEY?

VERY WELL, PUPPET. *BE* THE KING'S MESSENGER. SHOW THIS WORLD THAT JUSTICE IS *DEAD.*

AND SO IT WAS.

SZAK

IT DIED WITH SHEKO.

YSMAULT

HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS

THE KARLVAR MEDICAL BAY

YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY TO TALK, BLEEZ?

I'M *FINE*, GARDNER. AND EVEN IF I WASN'T, WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ME TO HEAL.

OKAY. LAY IT OUT FOR ME AGAIN--YOU WEREN'T MAKING A LOT OF SENSE BEFORE. *ATROCITUS?* HE'S *ALIVE?* WHERE IS RANKORR?

YES. I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT *YES.*

AND HE FOUND A *RING.*

RANKORR... *STAYED.* HE STAYED TO *FIGHT* WHILE I RAN AWAY LIKE A FRIGHTENED *CHILD.* SACRIFICED HIMSELF SO I COULD WARN THE REST OF YOU.

I SHOULD NEVER HAVE ALLOWED IT. RANKORR WAS... TOO GOOD FOR THAT.

IT'S OKAY, BLEEZ. RANKORR'S TOUGH. HE FOUGHT ALL OF US TO A STANDSTILL ONCE, REMEMBER? HE MIGHT HAVE MADE IT OUT.

THEN *WHERE IS HE,* ZOX? TELL ME *THAT,* YOU FOOLISH CREATURE. WHY *YOU* REMAIN AND RANKORR IS GONE...WHY *ANY* OF US--THE UNIVERSE IS A GIGANTIC *JOKE.*

HEY, NOW, COME ON. THAT'S A LITTLE *HARSH,* DON'T YOU THINK?

NO.

DEX-STARR HAS *CONSTRUCTS.* I DON'T KNOW HOW HE GOT THEM.

NO GOOD. DAMMIT. ATROCITUS?

I DIDN'T *SEE* THEM, BUT I'D *ASSUME* HE TOOK SOME OF THE CAT'S BLOOD.

THERE IS *NO* WAY RANKORR COULD BEAT THEM BOTH, IF THEY DO HAVE CONSTRUCTS. HE IS *DEAD,* OR *IMPRISONED.*

AND THAT IS NOT ALL. ATROCITUS HAD ANOTHER RED WITH HIM. A *NEW* ONE. IT WAS MADDENED--IT DID NOT HAVE REASON-- BUT STILL.

GREAT.

ADD IT UP-- YOU SEEING WHAT I'M SEEING?

YEAH. ATROCITUS AND A NEW RED, BOTH WITH RINGS. ONE WAS PROBABLY RATCHET'S, BUT THE OTHER HAS TO BE ONE FROM THAT NEW BATCH ATROCITUS MADE JUST BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP.

NINE WENT OUT. ONE FOUND *KARA.*

YUP. WHICH MEANS ATROCITUS HAS SEVEN MORE RINGS TO FIND-- *SEVEN* NEW REDS HE CAN ADD TO HIS CREW.

YOU KNOW HOW YOU RIGGED UP THIS SHIP TO WORK LIKE ONE BIG RING?

SURE.

SEE IF YOU CAN TIE THAT IN TO THE SCANNERS--DO A BROAD SWEEP, AS MANY SECTORS AS YOU CAN. ATROCITUS DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THE *KAALVAR.* HE'LL HAVE TO GET CLOSE TO A NEW RED TO FIND IT, BUT WE SHOULD SEE THEM WHEREVER THEY ARE.

MAYBE WE CAN BEAT HIM TO THE REST. SCOOP 'EM UP BEFORE HE GETS A CHANCE TO TURN THEM AGAINST US.

SMART. I'LL GET ON IT.

NO. YOU CAN'T DO THAT.

WE HAVE TO RESCUE RANKORR. *NOW.* WE NEED TO ATTACK ATROCITUS WITH OUR FULL STRENGTH.

I'M SORRY, BLEEZ. WE *WILL,* BUT WE CAN'T DO IT YET. NOT UNTIL I UNDERSTAND THE SCOPE OF THIS THING.

WHY DO NEW *RINGS* MATTER MORE THAN SAVING ONE OF OUR *OWN?*

WE CAN ROUND UP THE NEW REDS IN TIME. IT'S NOT *URGENT.*

IT IS.

YOU SAID ATROCITUS ALREADY HAS ONE OF THESE NEW REDS. THAT MEANS HE'S *LOOKING* FOR THEM. AND IF HE GETS THEM *ALL,* HE'LL OUTNUMBER US MORE THAN TWO TO ONE.

HE'S COMING FOR ME--FOR *ALL OF US.* IF HE HAS THAT MUCH POWER, HE'LL PAVE US FLAT.

WHICH MEANS *HE'LL* BE IN CHARGE OF SECTOR 2814.

2814 HAS EARTH. MY *HOME.*

THIS WHOLE THING IS *MY FAULT.* I HAVE TO TURN IT AROUND. WE'RE IN AN ARMS RACE NOW, AND *WE HAVE TO WIN.*

YOU HAVE TO WIN.

BUT YOU DON'T OWN ME. THAT'S HOW THE REDS WORK NOW--THAT'S HOW YOU *WANTED* THEM TO WORK.

WE *HAVE* NO LEADER.

SO DO WHAT YOU LIKE. I'M LEAVING TO GET RANKORR. *NOW.*

KARA.

I NEED YOU.

YOU CALLED?

WHO IS *THIS?*

ATROCITUS ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WITH NEW REDS. YOU WERE TOO OUT OF IT FOR INTRODUCTIONS WHEN YOU LANDED, BUT THIS IS--

I'M KARA ZOR-EL. YOU'RE *BLEEZ*, RIGHT? SKALLOX WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU.

ALL TERRIBLE THINGS, I'M SURE.

THIS IS ALL VERY PLEASANT, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO SOCIALIZE WITH *CHILDREN.*

KARA. ***DON'T LET HER GO.*** SHE NEEDS TO STAY IN THIS ROOM UNTIL SHE HEALS UP. I DON'T WANT HER RUNNING OUT AND GETTING HERSELF KILLED.

AND HOW--

--WOULD--

--SHE... NNN... STOP...

UH.

UH-*HUH.* SHE'S *KRYPTONIAN,* BLEEZ. DON'T COME MUCH TOUGHER. BACK HOME, THEY CALLED HER *SUPERGIRL.*

THANKS, KARA.

YOU GOT IT.

WHAT *NOW,* CHILD?

YOU'RE HURT. WHY DON'T YOU GET BACK IN BED? WE CAN TALK.

I HAVE *QUESTIONS.*

QUESTIONS. YOU KNOW HOW SICK I AM OF *QUESTIONS?* WE GET A NEW RED, FINALLY ANOTHER *WOMAN,* AND SHE ENDS UP JUST AS BAD AS... AS...R--

...FINE, CHILD.

TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW.

IT WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO END THIS WAY.

NOT ONLY IS SHEKO DEAD, SHE HAS DIED FOR *NOTHING.* SENTENCING THE PRINCE WOULD BE HER LAST ACT AS A JUDGE, SHE KNEW THAT.

BUT THE IDEA THAT THINGS WERE *SO FAR GONE* THAT THE KING WOULD ORDER HER EXECUTION INSIDE HER *VERY OWN COURTROOM?*

SHE HAD RULED THERE FOR SO LONG, SO MANY *YEARS,* THAT SHE BELIEVED HERSELF SACROSANCT. UNTOUCHABLE.

SHE WAS A *FOOL.*

SHE IS SO *ANGRY.* HER LIFE, HER WORK, HER HOPES, HER *WORLD,* ALL LOST.

LOST.

YOU HAVE DONE WELL, OLD MAN. YOU HAVE HONORED YOUR PRINCE, AND YOU WILL BE REWARDED.

BUT I MUST ASK--HOW DID IT *FEEL?* MURDERING A WOMAN WHO WAS PART OF YOUR LIFE FOR SO LONG? WHY, SHE MUST HAVE BEEN LIKE A MEMBER OF YOUR OWN *FAMILY.* *TELL ME.*

YES, OFFICER PARTHU

TELL HIM.

KILL HER *AGAIN*, PARTHU-- BUT TRY TO GET IT *RIGHT* THIS TIME, WOULD YOU?!

ZAK

I *SEE* YOU. I SEE YOU *BOTH*. THE THINGS YOU WISH TO KEEP *HIDDEN*.

NNNGGG

RRREEE

GUILTY.

AND *YOU*, WATCHERS. THE *DO-NOTHINGS*.

ARE *YOU* ANY BETTER?

DOUBT IS GONE.

PAIN IS GONE.

THEY HAVE BURNED AWAY...

...REPLACED BY *RAGE.*

PURE, COLD. THERE IS WHAT IS *RIGHT,* AND THERE IS WHAT IS *WRONG.*

AND NOW THERE IS ONE TO DECIDE WHICH IS WHICH.

TO *JUDGE.*

YOU KNOW, THIS *ATROCITUS* THING. WE COULD JUST...*GO.* FIND HIM. I BET HE'D TAKE US BACK. HE WOULDN'T TURN US AWAY.

I'D HATE TO DO IT, IN A WAY, BUT HE'S GOING TO COME HERE EVENTUALLY--YOU *KNOW* WHAT HE'S LIKE. BETTER *ALIVE* WITH ATROCITUS THAN *BURIED* NEXT TO GARDNER.

I'M GOING TO PRETEND I DIDN'T HEAR ANY OF THAT, SKALLOX.

BECAUSE IF I *DID* HEAR IT, IT'D MEAN YOU HADN'T LEARNED *ANYTHING* FROM RATCHET'S DEATH.

IT'D MEAN YOU WANTED TO DO EXACTLY WHAT GUY GARDNER WOULD *NEVER* DO. HE COULD RUN RIGHT BACK TO THE GREENS IF HE WANTED TO, AND HE'D BE SAFE. BUT HE WON'T. YOU CAN TELL.

YOU'RE AFRAID. I GET THAT.

I FEAR *NOTHING.*

THEN YOU'RE AN IDIOT. YOU HATE TO LOOK WEAK, RIGHT?

IT IS NOT AN ISSUE. I AM NEVER WEAK AT ALL.

THEN *PICK A SIDE.* ALL THIS BACK AND FORTH YOU DO, SHIFTING ALLEGIANCES EVERY TIME THE WIND CHANGES--*THAT'S* WEAK. WEAK IS NEVER HAVING ANY CONVICTIONS. NOTHING YOU CARE ENOUGH ABOUT TO *FIGHT FOR.*

GROW UP, SKALLOX. FIGURE OUT WHO YOU ARE.

ALL RIGHT. *DONE.* LET'S JUST SEE, THEN.

BOOM.

YOU ARE SO *YOUNG.* WHAT ARE YOU *DOING* HERE?

THE RING FOUND ME, SO I'M HERE. CLEARLY I'M ANGRY ENOUGH. WHAT DOES IT SAY-- "MY HEART CONTAINS GREAT RAGE..." *THAT.*

PERHAPS.

BUT EVEN IF YOU *CAN* HAVE A RING, DO YOU THINK YOU *SHOULD* HAVE A RING? I DON'T THINK THERE'S A RED IN THE WORLD WHO *WANTED* THIS LIFE. IT CLOSES EVERY OTHER DOOR.

YOU GROW TO ACCEPT IT, EVEN *THRIVE,* BUT SOMETIMES...YOU DO THINK OF WHAT YOUR LIFE COULD HAVE BEEN.

YOU DON'T KNOW ME, AND I DON'T PRETEND TO KNOW YOU, BUT WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER--FOR *BOTH* OF US--IF NEITHER ONE OF US HAD EVER HAD ANY *REASON* TO GET SO ANGRY?

RAGE IS USEFUL, RAGE IS STRONG--BUT IT COMES FROM *PAIN.* WE COULD ALL DO WITH LESS OF THAT.

EVEN IF I... LOOK, DONE IS DONE. I CAN'T TAKE THE RING OFF.

I'VE PUT A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT INTO THAT. HERE'S MY ANSWER.

HOW DO YOU *LIVE* WITH IT? WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? WHY DO RED LANTERNS EVEN *EXIST* IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WE EXIST TO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO MORE RED LANTERNS.

WOULD YOU...I MEAN, NO ONE'S REALLY TALKED TO ME LIKE A PERSON SINCE I GOT HERE. GUY THINKS I'M A PROBLEM, SKALLOX THINKS I'M A *WEAPON,* AND ZOX--I DON'T REALLY GET ZOX YET.

AND THIS IS *IT* FOR ME. SKALLOX TOLD ME. ONCE YOU'RE RED, YOU'RE RED *FOREVER.* I JUST... I JUST...

DO YOU THINK MAYBE WE COULD... UH...I COULD USE A-- A *FRIEND* HERE.

...

YES, KARA. I WOULD LIKE THAT.

WHOA.

GARDNER, YOU BETTER GET UP HERE.

WHAT'S THAT? SECTOR 775? THAT'S A *HUGE* POWER SIGNATURE. MAYBE A BUNCH OF NEW REDS, ALL GATHERED TOGETHER ON ONE PLANET? EVEN SO, THEY'D ALL HAVE TO BE PRETTY DAMN STRONG.

NO, GARDNER.

IT'S *ONE.*

SECTOR 775. PRIMEON.

I THOUGHT I WAS TOO *INJURED* TO FIGHT, GARDNER?

YOU ARE. I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU ALONE, AND KARA COULDN'T STAY TO BABYSIT YOU.

YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE I *NEED* KARA. THIS RED, WHOEVER HE IS, LOOKS *STRONG. REALLY* STRONG.

WE STASHED ENOUGH BLOOD FROM THE LAKE IN THE KAALVAR'S CARGO HOLD TO GET HIM SANE ENOUGH TO TALK TO, BUT WE MIGHT NEED A HEAVY-HITTER TO WRESTLE HIM BACK TO THE SHIP.

JUST POINT ME AT HIM.

DON'T GO UNLESS I TELL YOU TO. WE NEED TO *LOOK* BEFORE WE *LEAP.* YOU EVER HEAR THAT ONE?

I *FLY.*

JUST... JUST WAIT UNTIL I GIVE THE WORD, KID.

YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU, *STOP CALLING ME THAT.*

SORRY. YOU'RE RIGHT. I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ASKING. I APPRECIATE YOUR DOING THIS.

I'M PART OF THE TEAM. I'LL DO WHAT I NEED TO DO.

AND I PROMISE, BLEEZ. AFTER THIS, WE GO AFTER RANKORR.

YOU'VE REALLY LEFT ME NO CHOICE, GARDNER. I GUESS I'LL LEARN WHETHER YOU'RE A MAN OF YOUR WORD.

IF I'M *ANYTHING,* I'M THAT.

ONE RED DID ALL OF THIS?

LOOKS THAT WAY. STAY SHARP.

THIS IS *HORRIBLE.*

AS I SAID, KARA. RAGE IS STRENGTH AND PAIN AND DESPAIR, ALL KNOTTED TOGETHER IN A BALL OF BLADES AND WIRE. IT'S WHAT WE ARE, AND IT'S NOT *SUPPOSED* TO BE PRETTY.

*CITIZENS, THIS IS A **RESTRICTED** ZONE. THE CITY HAS BEEN EVACUATED. FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY, YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY VACATE THE AREA.*

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL--

COMPANY. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET ANYTHING OUT OF THEM.

BY THE VENERATED-- IT'S *MORE OF THEM!*

FIRE! *RIGHT NOW! FIRE!!*

HEY, NOW, LET'S JUST *TALK* FOR A--

KRRREEEAAKK

OH... YOU'RE GOING TO *REGRET* THAT.

WHA--

NO, KARA. THEY ARE JUST AFRAID. THEY AREN'T OUR ENEMIES. YET.

IF WE HAVE TO FIGHT, WE'LL FIGHT. BUT LET GUY DO WHAT *HE* DOES, FIRST.

LOOK, PAL. WE JUST TOOK YOUR WORST, AND WE AIN'T EVEN *SCRATCHED.*

YOU WANT TO TALK, OR DO WE HAVE TO RIP YOUR LITTLE SLED THING HERE APART FIRST?

T-TALK. WE CAN TALK.

OKAY, THEN. WHATEVER'S HAPPENED HERE, I'M SORRY, BUT WE AREN'T PART OF IT. WE'RE HERE TO *FIX* IT.

WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT'S GOING ON?

ONE...WITH THE SAME INSIGNIA YOU WEAR...IS TEARING THROUGH THE CITY, KILLING HALF THE NOBLES, PULLING DOWN THE PALACES. SHE... SHE *JUDGES* THEM.

WE CAN'T STOP THEM. OUR STRONGEST WEAPONS DON'T EVEN *SLOW THEM DOWN.*

OKAY. JUST LET US HANDLE IT. WE CAN--

WAIT.

DID YOU SAY *THEM?*

YES. FIRST IT WAS JUST THE JUDGE, BUT THEN THE *OTHER* TWO ARRIVED. THE RED ONE WITH THE *TEETH,* AND HIS LITTLE BLUE *FURRY* CREATURE.

NO.

ATROCITUS--

"--HE'S ALREADY HERE."

WHY, LOOK AT THAT, DEX-STARR.

WHO ISSS THAT, ATROCITUSSS?

I DON'T KNOW YET.

BUT I HAVE A FEELING WE'RE ABOUT TO BECOME *VERY* GOOD FRIENDS.

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON PART 3: JUDGEMENT DAY

TONY BEDARD writer **EMANUELA LUPACCHINO** with **RAY McCARTHY** (pgs 185-190, 193-197, 201, 202) and **GUILLERMO ORTEGO** (pg 203), **YILDIRAY CINAR** (pgs 198-200), **CORY SMITH** (pgs 191, 204) artists **HI-FI** (pgs 185-197, 201-204) **YILDIRAY CINAR** (pgs 198-200) colorists **ROB LEIGH** letterer cover art by **EMANUELA LUPACCHINO** with **HI-FI**

PLANET PRIMEEN. SPACE SECTOR 775.

STAY SHARP, PEOPLE. STOPPING THIS NEW RED LANTERN AIN'T GONNA BE EASY.

SHE'S *RIDICULOUSLY* POWERFUL. AND IF SHE'LL DO *THIS* TO HER OWN KIND, SHE WON'T GO ANY EASIER ON *US*.

IT WILL BE WORSE IF *ATROCITUS* FINDS HER FIRST.

WHAT EXACTLY IS THE *BIG DEAL* WITH THIS "ATROCITUS" PERSON?

HE *FOUNDED* THE RED LANTERNS. HE SENT OUT RINGS TO CREATE *NEW* REDS LIKE *YOU*.

ATROCITUS IS *BAD* AS THEY COME, KARA. WE HAVE TO WIN OVER *THIS* RED BEFORE SHE DECIDES TO FIGHT FOR *HIM*.

NOW *SPLIT UP!* WE'LL COVER GROUND FASTER!

MERCIFUL RAO, THIS CITY IS TAKING A ***BEATING--!***

LET US FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION TO ITS SOURCE.

I ONLY HOPE THIS NEW RED CAN BE ***REASONED*** WITH. NEWBORN RED LANTERNS ARE ALL DIFFERENT, DEPENDING ON THEIR PAST AND THE CRUELTY THEY'VE FACED...

"...AND IT WOULD SEEM THE RED LANTERN OF PRIMEEN HAD *MUCH* TO AVENGE."

WHOA!

GHOOM GHOOM GHOOM

CHECK YOUR FIRE, PEOPLE! I'M HERE TA ***HELP!***

GHOOM GHOOM GHOOM

GHOOM

LANTERNS, THIS IS ***GARDNER.***

STEER CLEAR OF LOCAL TROOPS.

DO NOT RETURN THEIR FIRE CARNAGE

THIS IS RIDICULOUS!

ZILIUS ZOX, GO BACK UP AND PROTECT THE ***SHIP*** BEFORE SOME FOOL TRIES TO SHOOT IT OUT OF ORBIT--!

YOU GOT IT, ***SKALLOX.***

3.7 KILOMETERS AWAY.

THISSS WAY, ATROCITUSSS.

SSSMELL HER POWER?

HOW CAN I *NOT*, *DEX-STARR*? HER RAGE IS LIKE A DRUMBEAT IN MY VEINS...

IT IS... *INTOXICATING.*

WITH HER AT MY COMMAND, WE SHALL *ANNIHILATE* GUY GARDNER AND HIS *TRAITORS.*

I CAN HASSS BALL-MAN?

YOU MAY *KEEP* ZILIUS ZOX AS A *CHEW TOY* FOR ALL I CARE, BUT GARDNER IS *MINE* ALONE.

THERE!

MORE OF THEM!

FIRE AT WILL!

MASSSTER...?

GO AHEAD, DEX-STARR. HAVE A LITTLE FUN.

SFANG

ZARK

GHOOM

GHOOM

GYAOWRRRLL!

NYAHH!

ARRRHH--

NO

NO

NO

NO--

WHUMP

WHUNG

CAN YOU RRRUN...?

I THINK NOT. I THINK N--

I SAID A *LITTLE* FUN, DEX-STARR. WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE ON GAMES.

COME. I WOULD CLAIM MY NEW LANTERN *NOW.*

THRUNCH

QUEENS, NY.

OCH, ALEXA! DIDN'T I ASK YOU *NOT* TO MESS ABOUT WITH THAT SORT OF THING?

LIGHTEN UP, *SIOBHAN*. IT'S JUST A *GAME*.

I *TOLD* YOU BLACK MAGIC'S NOT A GAME. NOT TO *ME*.

PLEASE HAVE THAT *PUT AWAY* WHEN I GET BACK, OKAY?

SHE WOULDN'T HURT US, WOULD SHE, *ALEXA*?

JUST *CONCENTRATE*, MEG.

SLAM

IT'S SPELLING... *B...L...A...Z...E*?

WHAT IS *THAT* SUPPOSED TO MEAN...?

OH, MY *GOD--!*

SHIFT

Where Is Super Girl?!

THIS ATROCITUS...*HE* IS THE ONE WHO BEAT YOU WITHIN AN INCH OF YOUR LIFE?

DO NOT CONCERN YOURSELF WITH MY *INJURIES.* I AM MORE THAN FIT ENOUGH TO--

--ARGHH!

LET'S GET TO THE GROUND. YOUR *WOUNDS* MUST STILL BE--

I CAN *LAND* ON MY OWN!

OKAY. FINE.

YOU KNOW, I WAS THINKING WE ARE GOING ABOUT THIS ALL *WRONG,* ANYWAY.

sniff WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WOULD IT NOT MAKE MORE SENSE IF YOU REMAIN IN PLACE WHILE I SEARCH THE DISTRICT AROUND YOU AT SUPER-SPEED?

AFTER THAT, WE MOVE TO THE NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD AND DO IT AGAIN. IT WOULD BE MORE, YOU KNOW... *SYSTEMATIC?*

IT'S *NONSENSE,* IS WHAT IT IS.

YOU'RE JUST MAKING *EXCUSES* FOR ME TO REST WHILE YOU DO ALL THE WORK-- TRYING TO SPARE MY *EGO.*

YOU ARE NOT NEARLY AS *STUPID* AS YOU LOOK, SUPERGIRL.

RIGHT. SO STAY PUT! I WILL CHECK BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

BOOM

THAT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO START...

SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO PINPOINT HER LOCATION, BETWEEN MY HEARING AND...WHAT DOES KAL CALL IT...?

"X-RAY VISION"...?

NO! SHE'S COMING THIS WAY!

RUN!

I SEE YOUR SINS, AND I PRONOUNCE YOU...

SPLUTT

GUILTY!

NO WAY DO I LET HER DO THAT AGAIN!

THERE IS NOWHERE TO HIDE. YOU MUST *ALL* BE JUDGED.

COME. *SUBMIT.*

THE RIGHTEOUS AND INNOCENT HAVE *NOTHING* TO FEAR.

N-NO... *PLEASE...*

THAT'S *ENOUGH!*

SHRAK'T

WHO ARE *YOU?*

MY NAME IS *KARA*. I AM A *RED LANTERN,* JUST LIKE YOU.

...RED... LANTERN...?

YOU ARE CONFUSED. I *GET* IT. I WENT THROUGH THE *SAME THING.*

JUST TRUST ME, I AM HERE TO *HELP* YOU. WE DO NOT HAVE TO *FIGHT...*

I SHALL BE THE JUDGE OF *THAT!*

SHRAK!

URK

RAO--!

SHE HITS HARDER THAN I DO!

RRRR...

NO...CAN'T LET ANGER TAKE OVER...

TAMP IT DOWN. CAN'T HIT BACK.

MAYBE I CAN STILL--

EVERYONE ON PRIMEEN MUST PAY FOR THEIR CRIMES TODAY...

...INCLUDING *YOU!*

DO NOT RESIST. YOU ARE AN *OPEN BOOK*...

...EACH CHAPTER FILLED WITH *VIOLENCE*...

...THE *DESTRUCTION* OF YOUR HOMEWORLD.

THE *MURDER* OF YOUR BELOVED.

NO ONE IS SAFE.

FATE CONSIGNED YOUR PEOPLE TO *OBLIVION*.

IT IS PAST TIME YOU *JOINED* THEM...

GET AWAY FROM MY DAUGHTER!

YOU... YOU CAN SEE ME?

OF COURSE I CAN SEE YOU. NOW GET OUT OF OUR HOME!

WHO ARE YOU...?

ALURA ZOR-EL! PRAETOR OF ARGO CITY! AND YOU TRESPASS AT YOUR PERIL!

I... YES...

...NO FURTHER QUESTIONS...

I FIND YOU *INNOCENT,* KARA ZOR-EL.

FLAWED AND DANGEROUS, BUT... *INNOCENT* NONETHELESS.

WHAT JUST... HAPPENED...?

I *UNDERSTAND* YOU NOW.

WAS... MY *MOTHER* HERE...?

NOT REALLY.

SHE WAS A CONSTRUCT OF MEMORY. A *FACET* OF YOUR IDENTITY.

THE *BRIGHTEST* FACET.

I WISH *I'D* HAD SUCH A GUARDIAN WHEN MY KING TURNED AGAINST ME.

NOW *GO.* THERE ARE *MORE* IN NEED OF JUDGMENT.

WAIT! I THINK I UNDERSTAND *YOU* NOW, TOO!

SHE'S **DIFFERENT** FOR A NEWBORN RED LANTERN. SHE CAN THINK AND SPEAK-- BUT DEEP DOWN SHE'S JUST AS FULL OF **RAGE** AS ANY NEW RED.

IT'S A **COLD,** METHODICAL RAGE, AND SHE'S NOT **REALLY** IN CONTROL OF IT.

SHE'LL DESTROY AND DESTROY **FOREVER,** UNLESS...

THE BLOOD! THE BLOOD CAN SAVE HER!

LISTEN... JUDGE...?

SHOULD I CALL YOU "JUDGE"?

I KNOW THAT MAKES NO SENSE TO YOU, BUT IT CAN *RESTORE* YOUR MIND SO YOU DO NOT *MURDER* EVERYONE ON PRIMEEN.

JUST *WAIT* RIGHT HERE. I WILL BE BACK WITH THE BLOOD IN A MINUTE.

WE HAVE A *SHIP* PARKED UP IN ORBIT, AND INSIDE IT IS A BIG TANK FILLED WITH *MAGIC BLOOD* FROM PLANET YSMAULT.

LEAVE. THERE ARE MORE IN NEED OF JUDGMENT.

RIGHT. YOU SAID THAT ALREADY.

I HAVE TO MAKE THIS QUICK BEFORE SHE FINDS MORE HEADS TO EXPLODE.

WHO IS THAT?

WHO CARESSS?

THE ONE WE SSSEEK ISSS NEAR.

RING, BACKTRACK THAT RED LANTERN'S POINT OF ORIGIN.

WHEN WE FIND HER, DEX-STARR, LET ME DO THE TALKING.

MROWR.

SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS ONE WON'T BE QUICK TO ACCEPT MY COMMANDS...

GABE

CHARLES SOULE writer ALESSANDRO VITTI & CALAFIORE (146, 147, 150, 160) artists GABE ELTAEB colorist DAVE SHARPE letterer
cover art by ALESSANDRO VITTI with GABE ELTAEB

SECTOR 775: THE PLANET PRIMEEN

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU HAVE *BECOME?*

YOU ARE GRAND AND GLORIOUS. YOU ARE PART OF SOMETHING NOBLE. SOMETHING JUST. A NEWLY BORN *RED LANTERN.*

COME WITH ME. I CAN TELL YOU WHAT THAT *MEANS.*

BUT FIRST... WHAT IS YOUR *NAME?* I WOULD *KNOW* YOU.

I AM... A JUDGE

WHO ARE YOU? ARE YOU... ARE YOU *RIGHTEOUS?*

MY DEAR LADY...

I AM *ATROCITUS,* AND THERE IS *NONE* MORE RIGHTEOUS THAN I.

WE SHALL SEE

YAARGH!

HSSSSS!

WHAP

KRAKK

MROWR!

BAAAADD...

...KITTY.

DEX-STARR... NO. L-LET THE JUDGE DO WHAT SHE WILL.

I HAVE... NOTHING TO HIDE.

I ...I CANNOT JUDGE YOU.

YOU HAVE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS--BUT YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THEM TO BE SO. IN YOUR MIND, IN YOUR CODE, EVERYTHING IS RIGHT. NECESSARY.

PART OF THE NATURAL LAW OF THE UNIVERSE.

YOU ARE CONVINCED. I HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED SOMEONE SO UTTERLY CONVINCED.

SHUKK

UNDER THE LAWS OF MY PEOPLE YOU ARE A MONSTER.

BUT I AM NOT OF YOUR PEOPLE.

NO. SO WHO AM I TO SAY?

HEH.

LET ME TELL YOU.

YOU ARE A RED LANTERN, A SACRED WEAPON FOR JUSTICE IN THE UNIVERSE.

AND I AM YOUR MAKER.

NEARBY

INCREDIBLE. ALL OF US *TOGETHER* WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME DOING THIS MUCH DAMAGE.

WE HAVE TO STOP THIS, SKALLOX. THE WHOLE *CITY'S* DYING.

I'M OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS, GARDNER. ATROCITUS AND DEX-STARR ARE OUT THERE TOO, DON'T FORGET.

WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE WE DO?

GARDNER? WHAT SHOULD WE--

I DON'T *KNOW,* DAMMIT!

THIS NEW RED COULD PROBABLY TAKE US OUT BY ***HERSELF,*** AND ATROCITUS AND HIS PET MONSTER WANT OUR ***HEADS.***

THIS HAS GOTTEN ***OUT OF*** CONTROL. I ***NEVER*** SHOULD HAVE SPLIT US UP TO LOOK FOR THE NEW RED.

AS STRONG AS KARA IS, FOR ALL I KNOW SHE AND BLEEZ ARE ALREADY--

GUY! I FOUND HER. SHE'S... ***TERRIFYING,*** BUT I THINK WE CAN HELP HER.

WHERE IS SHE? CAN YOU GET HER UP TO THE ***KAALVAR?*** WE'VE GOT BLOOD FROM THE YSMAULT LAKE STASHED IN ITS HOLD. SHOULD CALM HER DOWN.

WE...***FOUGHT,*** SORT OF. I LEFT HER DOWN THERE. I HAVE AN IDEA.

SHE DOES INDEED, GARDNER. YOU'RE GOING TO HATE IT.

YEAH? PROBABLY BETTER THAN ANYTHING *I* GOT, BLEEZ. LET'S HEAR IT, KARA.

NO TIME!

KARA! WHAT THE ***HELL??***

DON'T WORRY! I'LL ***HANDLE*** IT!

THE KHALVIAN FLAGSHIP VI THE RED-HALTER IS IN ORBIT ABOVE PRIMEEN.

OH, HEY, KARA. WHAT'S UP? YOU GUYS ALREADY FINISH DOWN THERE? WHAT'S THE NEW RED LIKE?

HEY, ZOX. SHE'S...NOT SO GOOD RIGHT NOW, HONESTLY.

WHERE DID YOU PUT THAT BLOOD FROM THE LAKE ON YSMAULT?

HOLD 14. I PUMPED IT FULL OF THE STUFF BEFORE WE LEFT. MAKES ME A LITTLE NERVOUS, ACTUALLY. 14'S RATED FOR CAUSTIC CHEMICALS, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THAT BLOOD'S LIKE. DON'T WANT IT EATING A HOLE THROUGH THE HULL.

NO PROBLEM. I'LL TAKE IT.

SURE, KARA, THANKS. SEE YOU LATER.

WAIT. *WHAT?*

RRRRRKKKRRRRAAKK

JUDGMENT DAY PART 3 OF 3

WHAT DID SHE--

YOU MUST ADMIT, IT'S AN EFFICIENT SOLUTION.

WHY BRING THIS RED TO THE BLOOD, WHEN WE CAN BRING THE BLOOD TO *HER?*

DAMMIT. LET'S GET OVER THERE. *NOW!*

WHAT IS THIS?

SMELLS LIKE... CAN IT BE?

HMM.

GUY GARDNER. YOU FOOL.

IT IS.

SPLSSH

HRRCH

COME, DEX-STARR.

GUY GARDNER AND HIS *TRAITORS* ATTACK US WITH THE *SACRED BLOOD?*

WITH THE VERY SUBSTANCE THAT MAKES US *WHO WE ARE?*

CLEARLY HE HAS FORGOTTEN THE MOST IMPORTANT TRUTH ABOUT THE RED LANTERNS.

THE BLOOD IS *MINE.*

YESSSSS!

AAAHAHAHAHAAHAHA!

OH NO.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

IT'S ATROCITUS.

AND NOW HE KNOWS WE'RE HERE.

I DIDN'T...

HE'S A SHAMAN-- HE CREATED THE RINGS, AND THE MYSTICAL BLOOD, AND HE CAN CONTROL IT. HE'S TELLING US WE HAVE NO HOPE AGAINST HIM.

SO WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

HE CAN USE THAT BLOOD, RIGHT? POWER UP SOMEHOW? HE'S GOT THAT...I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CALL IT...MAGIC.

YES. WITH THAT MUCH, THERE'S NO LIMIT TO WHAT HE COULD DO HERE. WE SHOULD WITHDRAW.

UNLESS YOU WANT TO CHOOSE THIS MOMENT TO CONFRONT THE PERSON YOU SAVAGELY BEAT TO DEATH NOT SO LONG AGO.

DAMN. DAMN. ALL RIGHT. WE'LL GO. FIGURE THIS OUT.

NO! I CAN FIX THIS!

HE MADE US.

HE SHOULD PAY FOR THAT.

SSSZZZ

THEY...SET IT ON *FIRE*...? *IDIOTS.*

STILL, WE SHOULD TAKE OUR NEW FRIEND AND LEAVE, DEX-STARR. WHATEVER DID THIS WAS *POWERFUL.*

CANNNTT KILLL THEMM?

EVENTUALLY. THERE WILL BE MUCH TO SAVOR BETWEEN NOW AND THEN.

SLAP

CONTROL YOURSELF!

I THOUGHT WE WERE *FRIENDS.* THAT WASN'T VERY *FRIENDLY.*

GROW UP, KARA. WEARING A RED RING IS A *STRUGGLE.* YOU *CANNOT* GIVE IN TO EVERY *IMPULSE,* NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT WANTS YOU TO DO. YOU INSIST YOU ARE A NOT A CHILD? PROVE IT.

GROW UP.

BLEEZ IS RIGHT, KARA. I MIGHT HAVE SAID IT DIFFERENTLY, BUT IT'S NOT ABOUT BEING ANGRY ALL THE TIME. IT'S ABOUT BEING ANGRY FOR THE *RIGHT REASONS,* AND *DOING* SOMETHING WITH THAT.

KID--

I *TOLD* YOU--

KID, DON'T BECOME A *PROBLEM.* I KNOW YOU WERE TRYING TO HELP, BUT DON'T BECOME SOMETHING WE HAVE TO *SOLVE.* YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT. I *KNOW* YOU ARE.

I--

HOW THE HELL DO WE DEAL WITH *THIS?* IT'S GOING TO DESTROY THE CITY, FOR SURE. HOW LONG WILL IT BURN? COULD IT DESTROY THE *PLANET?*

HARD TO SAY. THIS IS... UNPRECEDENTED. BUT I MAY HAVE AN IDEA...

HOW ARE YOU...*DOING*... THIS? THOUGHT THIS WAS... *ATROCITUS'* THING...

I *WATCHED* ATROCITUS...*STUDIED* HIM AS HE PERFORMED... THE BLOOD MAGIC. HE *MADE* US--THERE'S SOMETHING OF HIM IN *ALL* OF US.

WE'RE *NOT* ATROCITUS... BUT WE...WEAR THE *RINGS.*

STOP *TALKING,* YOU FOOLS! IF... WE'RE GOING TO... *DO* THIS, THEN LET'S *DO* IT!

BLOOD MAGIC. *UNBELIEVABLE.*

I GOT *NOTHIN'* OF THAT GUY-- HE'S--

FOCUS! THIS IS... *DIFFICULT.*

FOR *YOU.*

AND WE'RE SUPPOSEDLY THE *GOOD* REDS?

...

WE SHOULD GO. WE'VE DONE WHAT WE COULD.

I'M *SORRY*, ALL RIGHT? I DIDN'T *WANT* THIS.

WE KNOW THAT, KARA. IT'S AS MUCH OUR FAULT AS YOURS.

WHICH JUST MEANS WE HAVE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO *HELP* THESE PEOPLE.

BUT NOT UNTIL WE FIND THIS NEW RED. AND *ATROCITUS.*

I'M A LITTLE SICK OF PLAYING *CHESS* WITH THAT SON OF A BITCH. HE MOVES, WE MOVE, *FORGET* IT. HONESTLY?

I JUST WANT TO KICK HIS ASS.

AGAIN.

HFFFFFF

WHAT HAVE I DONE?

MADAM, YOU DID ONE THING--

--THE *RIGHT THING.*

YOU BROUGHT *JUSTICE*--THE JUSTICE YOUR *RIGHTEOUS RAGE* CALLED YOU TO DELIVER.

YOU ARE THE MOST POWERFUL RED LANTERN I HAVE MET IN *AGES.* YOU HELD THE MADNESS AT BAY WHEN THE RING FIRST CHOSE YOU. I HAVE *NEVER* SEEN A NEWBORN RED DO THAT.

AGAIN I EXTEND MY HAND TO YOU--COME WITH ME. I WILL TEACH YOU YOUR *PURPOSE* IN THIS DARK, SORDID UNIVERSE.

PAL, THE LADY'S GOING *NOWHERE.* AND *NEITHER ARE YOU.*

TAKE HIM. AND THE DAMN *CAT,* TOO.

RANKORR.

HOLD UP.

WE KNOW YOU HAVE HIM. BLEEZ TOLD US. IT'S NOT GOING TO SAVE YOU.

WE AREN'T TALKING ABOUT ME. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT *HIM.*

YOU THINK I JUST LEFT HIM ALONE? NO. HE HAS A *JAILER*-- YOUR NEW SISTER *KLARN.*

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?

FINE. *SMALL WORDS,* THEN.

RANKORR IS BEING TENDED BY A PARTICULARLY *VICIOUS* NEW RED--KLARN. IF DEX-STARR AND I DO NOT RETURN SOON, SHE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO *KILL* RANKORR.

KILL US, AND YOU KILL ONE OF YOUR OWN AT THE SAME TIME.

YOU *MONSTER!* IF HE DIES AT YOUR HAND--

WHAT WILL YOU DO, BLEEZ? YOU *HAD* A CHANCE TO DIE AT RANKORR'S SIDE, AND INSTEAD YOU *FLED.* YOUR CONVICTIONS ARE STRONG WHEN THERE IS NOTHING AT *STAKE.*

I WILL LEAVE HERE TODAY, AND THERE IS NOTHING ANY OF YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.

BUT THERE IS A WAY YOU CAN HAVE RANKORR BACK AS WELL.

OUT WITH IT.

LET ME LEAVE WITH *HER,* AND I WILL RETURN RANKORR TO YOU.

THAT IS MY *BLOOD OATH.*

I--

NO.

WHY NOT? YOU HAVE LOOKED INTO MY HEAD. YOU KNOW WHAT I AIM TO DO.

I DO. BUT THAT IS NOT ENOUGH.

THERE IS MUCH I DO NOT YET UNDERSTAND ABOUT THIS RING. WHEN IT FIRST FOUND ME THE *RAGE* I FELT -PURE, CLEAN *COLD*. YOU SAY I WAS NOT INSANE? I WAS

NOTHING. *NOTHING* MADE MORE SENSE THAN DESTROYING THE CORRUPTION ROTTING MY HOME FROM WITHIN.

AND SO THAT IS WHAT I DID.

I MUST NOW SIT IN JUDGMENT UPON MYSELF. I MAY BE DAMNED. I DO NOT YET KNOW.

BUT LIKE ANY GOOD JUDGE

...I NEED TO HEAR BOTH SIDES BEFORE I PASS SENTENCE.

I UNDERSTAND YOU, ATROCITUS. BUT I NEED TO UNDERSTAND THESE OTHERS AS WELL.

I AM SORRY IF THIS DOOMS THIS *RANKORR*, BUT THAT IS NOT MY CONCERN. I MUST BE *JUDGED*.

IT'S YOUR LIFE, LADY. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GO WITH ATROCITUS, DON'T. I DON'T BLAME YOU.

NO!

GARDNER, HE'LL *KILL* HIM. YOU CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN!

EASY, BLEEZ.

IS THIS HOW IT STARTS, THEN? ARE YOU DECLARING WAR ON US?

NO, GARDNER. NOT YET. WHEN I DECLARE WAR, *YOU WILL KNOW.*

OH, THE *THINGS* I HAVE PLANNED FOR YOU, GUY GARDNER. YOU AND *ANYONE* WHO STANDS WITH YOU.

GET IN LINE, PAL. YOU AIN'T THE FIRST, AND I *GUARANTEE* YOU WON'T BE THE LAST.

WORSE THAN *YOU* HAVE TRIED TO TAKE GUY GARDNER DOWN!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT? *YOU KNOW WHAT?*

I'M STILL HERE, YOU BASTARD!

I'M STILL HERE!

UNTIL THEN, GARDNER.

YEAH.

PLEASE. WILL YOU ALL JUST...*LEAVE?* WE CAN'T *FORCE* YOU, BUT... *PLEASE.*

BUT WE CAN *HELP.* WE CAN HELP CLEAR AWAY THE DAMAGE--THERE'S A LOT WE--

PLEASE.

CAN'T HELP 'EM IF THEY DON'T WANT TO BE HELPED, KARA.

BLEEZ IS RIGHT. SO MUCH FOR BEING THE *GOOD* ONES.

LET'S GO.

WHAT NOW, GARDNER?

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU *THINK,* SKALLOX?

WE'RE GOING TO GO GET *RANKORR* BACK.

SORRENTINO 14

CHARLES SOULE writer J. CALAFIORE artist GABE ELTAEB colorist TAYLOR ESPOSITO letterer

cover art by ANDREA SORRENTINO

ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE. WE'RE GOING AFTER ONE OF OUR OWN.

ATROCITUS, THAT BASTARD, HAS RANKORR. WE'RE *TAKING HIM BACK.*

LONG PAST DUE.

THE HAALVAR.
FLAGSHIP OF THE RED LANTERNS.

KARA, JUDGE...YOU TWO AREN'T PART OF THIS. YOU'VE NEVER EVEN *MET* RANKORR. IT'S GOING TO BE *DANGEROUS.*

STAY ON THE SHIP. WE'LL CALL YOU IF WE NEED BACKUP.

NO. I WILL JOIN YOU. I WISH TO *OBSERVE.*

I'M COMING TOO. I DON'T CARE *HOW* DANGEROUS IT IS, GUY. HE'S ONE OF US.

...

FAIR ENOUGH.

ATROCITUS MIGHT ALREADY KNOW WE'RE HERE, WITH THAT BLOOD MAGIC BUSINESS HE CAN DO.

BUT HE *DOESN'T* KNOW WE CAME PACKING. LET'S SHOW HIM WHAT HE'S UP AGAINST.

HIT IT, ZOX.

YOU GOT IT, GARDNER.

ALL RIGHT, BABY...

LET'S GET BAD.

THWOOM

THWOOM

THWOOM

KRRZAK

KRRZAK

THIS IS WHERE YOU LEFT RANKORR, BLEEZ?

YES, BUT I DIDN'T *LEAVE* HIM, GARDNER. HE *FORCED* ME TO GO. I WANTED TO *FIGHT.*

OKAY. LET'S CHECK IT OUT. *CAREFULLY.*

DO *NOT* RUSH IN. THAT MEANS *YOU,* KARA.

THIS FEELS *OFF,* GARDNER.

IF ATROCITUS KNOWS WE'RE COMING, THEN WHY HASN'T HE ALREADY COUNTERATTACKED? YOU NEVER KNEW HIM LIKE BLEEZ AND I DID--HE'S *DEVIOUS.* THIS IS OBVIOUSLY--

YEAH, SKALLOX. I GET IT.

BUT RANKORR'S IN THERE. OUR *BROTHER.*

I DON'T CARE *WHAT* ATROCITUS HAS WAITING FOR US DOWN THERE. RANKORR'S COMING HOME. RIGHT NOW.

ALL RIGHT, ATROCITUS, YOU--

DEAR GOD.

ATROCITIES
PART 1 OF 4

HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS.

ATROCITUSSS, WHAT ARE THEEESE?

ONE WORD, DEX-STARR.

SACRILEGE.

...HE EVEN KILLED *ME.*

YET I *ROSE AGAIN.* DO YOU THINK THAT *MEANS* SOMETHING?

THROUGH STRENGTH OF WILL, I RETURNED TO POWER...*WHY,* DO YOU SUPPOSE?

LESSER BEINGS WOULD HAVE SURRENDERED TO OBLIVION--BUT *I REMAIN. WHY?*

TELL USSS...

G-GIVE US THE *M-MEANING.* OUR *P-PURPOSE.*

POOR, GENTLE, MISGUIDED RATCHET. HE COULD HAVE BEEN AMONG THE GREATEST OF US.

IT IS A *TEST.* THE SCOURGE OF GARDNER HAS BEEN VISITED UPON US TO SEE IF WE ARE *WORTHY.*

THE DEEPER HE SUCKS THE SACRED RED LANTERNS INTO THE MUCK, THE GREATER OUR *OPPORTUNITY.*

WE CAN DRAG THE REDS BACK *INTO THE LIGHT.* WE WILL EMERGE PURER, *STRONGER.*

AND INSTEAD HE *DIED,* IN SERVICE TO GARDNER'S PERVERSION OF THE RED LANTERN FAITH. TRAGIC. GUY GARDNER KILLS REDS.

IN FACT, MY CHILDREN...

I HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THIS HALLOWED TASK. IT IS MY *TRIAL BY ORDEAL.*

AND TODAY, IT *BEGINS.*

HNH.

NOT A BAD LIKENESS.

SO SMUG...SO STUPID.

NNYAARGHH!

BETTER.

SOON ENOUGH, GARDNER. SOON ENOUGH.

SKKKKK

TEAR THEM ALL DOWN.

EXCEPT FOR RATCHET'S. LEAVE THAT ONE. HE DESERVED BETTER THAN HE RECEIVED.

OH... RANKORR. WHAT DID HE *DO* TO YOU?

CAREFUL, BLEEZ--HE LOOKS *MINDLESS.* ATROCITUS MAY HAVE PLACED A *TRAP* NEAR HIM--HE COULD BE A *LURE.*

CAN THAT BE *DONE?* CAN WE GET CHANGED *BACK?* GO *CRAZY* AGAIN? THAT'S... THAT'S *HORRIBLE.* WHO WOULD *DO* SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO A PERSON?

ATROCITUS.

BUT *WHY?* ISN'T ATROCITUS *ONE OF US?*

HE WOULD SAY HE IS THE *BEST* OF US. THE *PUREST* EXAMPLE OF WHAT A RED LANTERN SHOULD BE.

IT'S A *THREAT.* HE'S SAYING IF HE CAN DO *THIS* TO ONE OF OUR STRONGEST GUYS, THEN WHAT HOPE DO THE REST OF US HAVE?

BUT WHY DOES HE *HATE* US SO MUCH?

BECAUSE, KARA...I--

GARDNER BEAT ATROCITUS TO DEATH--OR NEARLY... *HUMILIATED* HIM--AND TOOK THE RED LANTERNS. HE STOLE AWAY HIS ENTIRE REASON FOR BEING.

SO WHAT HAPPENED TO RANKORR... IT'S--

YES. MY FAULT. THIS--

CLINK

--AND EVERYTHING THAT COMES AFTER.

RRRRR

KA-THOOM

THUAM

WHAT DID YOU *DO*, BLEEZ?!

I *RELEASED* HIM, SKALLOX. MINDLESS OR NOT, HE IS *ONE OF US*, AND HE SHOULD NOT BE *CHAINED.*

I BEG TO *DIFFER.* HE LOOKS AS IF HE *VERY MUCH* SHOULD BE CHAINED.

RANKORR ISN'T *BAIT.* RANKORR IS THE *TRAP.*

LET US HOPE YOUR SHALLOW SENTIMENT HAS NOT KILLED US ALL.

WHOOSH

STAY *DOWN!* I DON'T WANT TO *HURT*--

SLAM

AHHHHH

KRACK

KARA!

YOU SON OF A-- SHE'S JUST A *KID!*

AHAHAHAHAHA

NOTHING? WE'RE GETTING *KILLED* HERE!

IT IS NOT MY PURPOSE TO FIGHT YOUR BATTLES.

YOU THINK HE'LL *STOP* ONCE HE'S TAKEN OUT THE REST OF US? HE'LL COME AFTER YOU N--

AAARRRGH!!

SSSHH

YYAAAGHHH!

WHAT NOW, ATROCITUSSS? TAKE BACK YSSSMAULT FOR OURSELVESSS?

NO, DEX-STARR. YSMAULT IS DEAD TO US. TOO MUCH TIME HAS PASSED. WE HAVE FOUND A NEW HOME ELSEWHERE. IT WILL SERVE.

OUR FAITH PERSISTS NO MATTER WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES. THE BLOOD TRUTHS ARE NOT TIED TO ANY ONE *BALL OF DIRT*. EVEN *THIS* ONE.

BUT YSMAULT CAN STILL PLAY A PART IN OUR REVENGE.

AN *INTEGRAL* PART.

SSSSS

BY NOW, GARDNER AND THE OTHERS WILL HAVE FOUND RANKORR.

ASSUMING RANKORR DOES NOT KILL THEM OUT-RIGHT, THEY WILL BRING HIM *HERE* AND IMMERSE HIM IN THE LAKE. THEY BELIEVE HIS REASON WILL RETURN, AND ALL WILL BE WELL.

THEY ARE *MISTAKEN.*

HSSSS

AND NOW, LET US *FINISH* THIS.

ZOX, I NEED YOU TO TARGET A BLAST FROM THE *KAALVAR* ON MY LOCATION. SIXTY PERCENT INTENSITY.

YOUR LOCATION? EVEN AT SIXTY PERCENT, THAT'D *FRY* YOU. WHY DO YOU WANT ME TO--

I *GUESS*, BUT--

RANKORR. STOP. YOU ARE BETTER THAN THIS.

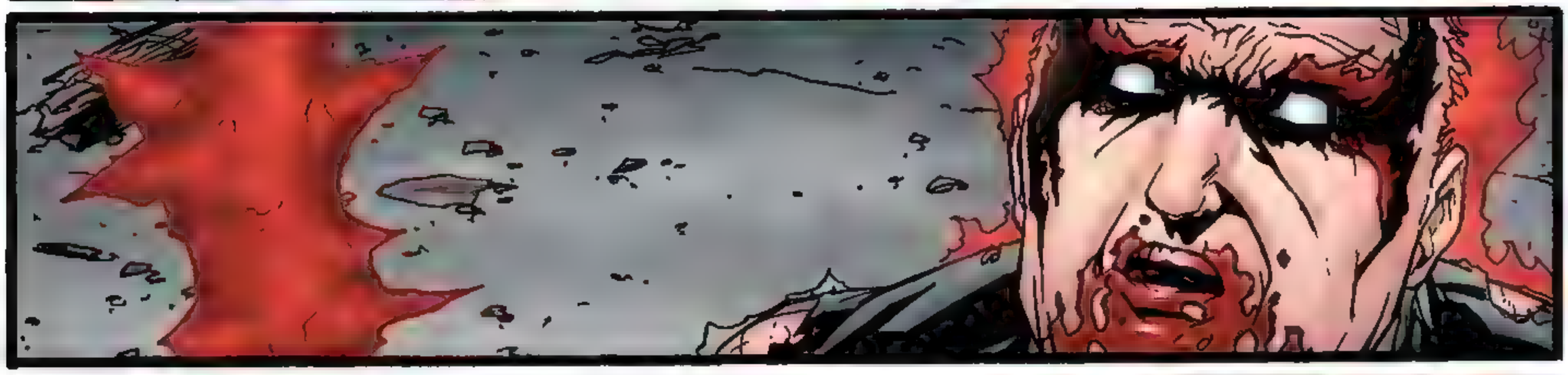
YOU SACRIFICED YOURSELF TO SAVE ME...*ME*, SOMEONE SO UNWORTHY THAT I CAN BARELY STAND TO LIVE INSIDE MY OWN SKIN.

I MANEUVER FOR POWER, I PUT OTHERS DOWN, IN HOPES THAT IF *THEY* BELIEVE I AM STRONGER, *BETTER*...

...THEN I MAY COME TO BELIEVE IT MYSELF.

I'VE BEEN WHERE YOU ARE-- WE *ALL* HAVE. EVEN IN THE DEPTHS OF THE RAGE AND MADNESS, A *SOUL* REMAINS.

STOP FIGHTING US. STOP *HURTING* US--FIND YOURSELF.



I AM DESOLATE. YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE.

SZAK

NOW, ZOX! NOW!

RARRRAGH!

OH MY GOD. ARE THEY--

NO. THEY'RE *ALIVE*, OR THEIR RINGS WOULD HAVE LEFT.

WHY DID SHE--

BUT BARELY.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY SHE COULD BE SURE THE BLAST WOULD HIT RANKORR.

WILL SHE BE *ALL RIGHT?*

I DON'T KNOW, KARA. I HOPE SO. BUT SHE BOUGHT US *TIME.* LET'S USE IT.

WE CAN GET RANKORR UP TO A HOLDING CELL ON THE *KAALVAR* AND THEN BACK TO YSMAULT. THE LAKE WILL HELP BRING HIM *BACK.*

W...WHAT HAPPENED?

ATROCITUS. HE TOLD US. HE SAID WE WOULD *KNOW* WHEN HE DECLARED WAR.

NOW WE KNOW.

ZOX, SKALLOX, SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU CAN DO. TRY TO FIGURE OUT SOME *OTHER* WAY TO HELP RANKORR.

KARA, COME WITH ME. WE NEED TO TALK.

BUT I CAN HELP HERE-- IF RANKORR WAKES UP...

JUST COME ON.

WHAT DO YOU NEED, GUY?

THIS... HERE, WITH US. IT ISN'T FOR YOU. IT'S TIME YOU FIND YOUR OWN WAY.

I DON'T UNDER-STAND--

KARA, DID YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT HE'S *DONE* TO THIS PLACE? ATROCITUS IS PLAYING FOR *KEEPS.* HE WANTS ME *DEAD,* AND ANY-ONE WHO STANDS WITH ME.

WHAT ARE YOU *SAYING?* ARE YOU *KICKING ME OUT?*

YOU *NEED* ME. I CAN HELP *PROTECT* YOU. WE CAN *BEAT* HIM!

THERE WON'T *BE* A WINNER HERE, KARA. ONLY LOSERS. PEOPLE WILL DIE.

I'LL BE DAMNED IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE ONE OF THEM. I HAVE *ENOUGH* DEATH TO MAKE UP FOR.

THE OTHER REDS, THEY'RE ALL *PART* OF THIS. YOU'RE *NOT.*

YOU'RE AN *IDIOT,* GARDNER!

DO YOU KNOW HOW *ANGRY* I WAS, EVEN BEFORE I *GOT* THIS DAMN RING?

THE *ONLY* THING THAT'S HELPED ME *DEAL* WITH THAT WAS BEING HERE WITH *YOU.* WITH *ALL* OF YOU.

THAT'S MY *POINT,* KARA. YOU HAVE A FUTURE. THE REST OF US... I'M NOT SO SURE.

LET US GO INTO THIS FIGHT KNOWING WE DID AT LEAST *ONE* THING *RIGHT.* DON'T GET DRAGGED DOWN *WITH* US.

PLEASE.

BUT EVEN IF I *DO* GO...THE RING...I CAN'T TAKE IT *OFF.* I'M A RED *FOREVER.*

WITHOUT YOU AND THE *OTHERS,* HOW WILL I--WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO *DO?*

YOU'LL FIND YOUR WAY. YOU'RE *STRONG,* KARA. YOU DIDN'T CHOOSE THIS LIFE, BUT I'VE SEEN ENOUGH IN OUR TIME TOGETHER TO KNOW THAT YOU CAN MAKE SOMETHING OF IT.

YOU'RE BETTER THAN ALL OF US.

I'LL GIVE YOU THE COORDINATES FOR MOGO, IN SECTOR 0400. I WANT YOU TO GO TO HAL JORDAN.

YOU MET HIM BEFORE, WHEN YOU FIRST JOINED US. HE CAN HELP YOU--MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO FIND A WAY TO GET THAT RING OFF YOUR FINGER.

WHO SAYS I WANT THAT?

OH, KID.

DON'T CALL ME THAT.

ANY LUCK WITH THIS?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW THIS THING *WORKS*, GARDNER. *RATCHET* WAS THE BATTERY EXPERT--AND HE'S DEAD.

YEAH.

WHERE'S KARA?

I TOLD HER TO LEAVE. SHE'S GONE.

WHAT? THE STRONGEST WEAPON WE HAVE, AND YOU SENT HER *AWAY?* YOU *IDIOT!*

SHE'S NOT A *WEAPON*, SKALLOX. SHE'S A *PERSON*, AND ONE WHO DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE IN THE PATH OF ATROCITUS' CRUSADE.

LIKE ANY OF *US* DO?

WE *ALL* DESERVE WHAT'S COMING, SKALLOX. YOU'RE KIDDING YOURSELF IF YOU THINK ANY DIFFERENT.

THIS WON'T END HERE. WE ALL KNOW IT. I GOT JUST ONE HOPE IN THIS WHOLE TERRIBLE THING.

MAYBE, SOMEHOW...

"...WE TAKE THAT MONSTER DOWN WITH US."

HYPERSPACE.

MY LORD, WE ARE APPROACHING OUR DESTINATION.

YOU DID NOT SAY *WHY* YOU CHOSE THIS LOCATION.

WE ARE HERE, GENERAL HOM, TO SET A TRAP FOR THE RED LANTERN WHO HUMILIATED YOU ON PLANET GRAX.

BUT HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE SHE WILL PASS THIS WAY?

CHECK LONG-RANGE SCANNERS AND YOU WILL FIND A PLANET CIRCLING THIS SUN KNOWN AS EARTH.

IT IS THE PLACE THE KRYPTONIAN RED LANTERN CURRENTLY CALLS HOME.

AND WHERE I, WORLDKILLER-1, WILL HAVE VENGEANCE!

LUPACCHINO
*

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON PART 4: HOMECOMING

TONY BEDARD writer **EMANUELA LUPACCHINO** penciller **RAY McCARTHY** inker **HI-FI** colorist **ROB LEIGH** letterer
cover art by **EMANUELA LUPACCHINO** with **HI-FI**

DEEP SPACE.

MY NAME IS KARA ZOR-EL.

I AM A KRYPTONIAN.

I AM A RED LANTERN.

I MIGHT JUST BE THE MOST DANGEROUS THING IN THE UNIVERSE.

NO WONDER NOBODY WANTS ME AROUND.

APPROACHING MOGO. WARNING: GREEN LANTERN ENERGY SIGNATURES DETECTED.

THIS **RING.** I THOUGHT IT WAS THE ANSWER TO MY PRAYERS.

IT **CHOSE** ME. IT TOLD ME I **BELONGED.**

IT HELPED ME **PROVE** MYSELF TO THE OTHER RED LANTERNS.

ONCE THEY SAW HOW I HANDLED MYSELF, THEY **ACCEPTED** ME.

THEY EVEN **LIKED** ME.

BUT AFTER ALL THAT, **GUY GARDNER** STILL SENT ME AWAY.

HE SENT ME TO A PLANET CALLED MOGO TO FIND A GREEN LANTERN WHO CAN HELP **REMOVE** MY RING WITHOUT KILLING ME.

GUY KICKED ME OUT OF THE CORPS SO **NICELY** I PRACTICALLY **THANKED** HIM FOR IT.

BUT NOW THAT I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT...

...**FORGET** GUY GARDNER!

I AM **KEEPING** THIS RING AND GOING BACK TO THE ONLY HOME I HAVE LEFT!

ALTHOUGH...THAT MIGHT NOT BE EASY...

NEW DESTINATION: PLANET EARTH.

THE SOL SYSTEM.

MY FAITHFUL DIASPORANS.

MANY CYCLES AGO, I TAUGHT YOU THAT THE LOSS OF YOUR HOMEWORLD WAS YOUR PATH TO POWER.

IN THE DAYS SINCE WE EMBARKED UPON OUR HOLY MISSION, WE HAVE **SHARED** THE GIFT OF LOSS WITH DOZENS OF WORLDS AND SPECIES.

REGRETFULLY, NOT ALL **SURVIVE** OUR GIFT.

NOT ALL PROVE **WORTHY** OF THE FAVOR WE BESTOW UPON THEM.

WE DO NOT DO THIS FOR THE UNWORTHY.

WE SEEK THE **BLESSED FEW** OUT THERE LIKE YOURSELVES, WHO POSSESS A HIDDEN CAPACITY FOR **POWER** EVEN **THEY** DO NOT YET REALIZE.

WE FIND THEM! FORCE THEM TO GROW! TO **EVOLVE!**

TO LIVE UP TO THEIR **BOUNDLESS POTENTIAL!**

AND BY THE END OF THIS DAY, WE SHALL HAVE A NEW **CHAMPION** TO ASSIST OUR QUEST-- ONE WHO HAS **ALREADY** UNLOCKED HER HIDDEN POWER.

SHE IS THE **EMBODIMENT** OF OUR IDEALS.

AND WITH HER AS OUR VANGUARD--

--WE SHALL BRING OUR GIFT TO THE REST OF THE UNIVERSE!

HYPERSPACE

AFTER A SHORT SIDE TRIP...

HOW MUCH FURTHER, RING?

ENTERING SOL SYSTEM DESTIN--

FWAM

ENGAGE!

ANCHAR!

THERE!

THE HYPERSNARE *HAS* HER!

REMEMBER-- TAKE HER *ALIVE!*

I FOUGHT THESE CREATURES BEFORE--THESE "DIASPORANS"--BUT AT THE OTHER END OF THE SECTOR.

HOW DID THEY KNOW I WOULD BE NEAR EARTH?

AND DO THEY SERIOUSLY THINK THEY CAN OVERPOWER ME?

BUM BUM BUM BUM

"TAKE HER ALIVE." HA! AS IF THEY CAN TAKE ME AT ALL.

ALL THEY ARE DOING IS MAKING ME MAD.

BUM BUM BUM BUM

AND THAT IS NOT A SMART MOVE THESE DAYS...

BUM BUM BUM BUM

GET OFF!

AGH!

RIGHT. THEY HAVE A **FLEET.**

STOLEN FROM EVERY WORLD THEY'VE EVER RUINED BY THE LOOK OF IT.

BUT THEY MADE THE MISTAKE OF SHOWING ME THEY CAN **SURVIVE** IN THE VACUUM OF SPACE...

...WHICH MEANS THEY WON'T BE **NEEDING** THEIR LITTLE ARMADA ANYMORE!

OH, YOU ARE EVEN GRANDER THAN I IMAGINED!

MUST BE THEIR LEADER.

NOT THAT HIS WORDS WILL STOP ME FROM--

GAINING YOU WILL BE WORTH LOSING MY FLEET.

THIS ONE... THIS DIASPORAN... HE IS DIFFERENT.

MAYBE IT IS THE ARMOR...

I HAVE NEVER WANTED TO DESTROY ANYONE THIS MUCH IN MY LIFE!

SUCH SPIRIT!

IS HE LAUGHING AT ME?!

SPLANG

WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH YOU?!

HOW *STUPID* DO YOU HAVE TO BE--

--TO HUNT *ME* DOWN?!

MY *KING*--!

WHAK

WHAK

WHAK

YOUR NEW *WHAT*--?

RING, IS YOUR *TRANSLATOR* BROKEN?

KEEP BACK!

SHE IS OUR NEW CHAMPION!

<IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING ME, THEN LET US CONVERSE IN YOUR NATIVE TONGUE.>*

*TRANSLATED FROM KRYPTONIAN.

<YOU...SPEAK... KRYPTONIAN?!>

<OF COURSE I DO.>

<I AM AS KRYPTONIAN AS YOU ARE.>

<LIAR!>

<I WOULD NEVER LIE TO A FELLOW SURVIVOR.>

FAPP

<WHO ARE YOU?>

<I DO NOT HAVE A NAME. BUT YOU MAY CALL ME... WORLDKILLER.>

<"WORLDKILLER.">

<I FOUGHT *FOUR OTHERS* WITH THAT NAME. THEY *WARNED* ME THERE WAS A FIFTH...>

<I AM THE FIRST.

WORLDKILLER-1.

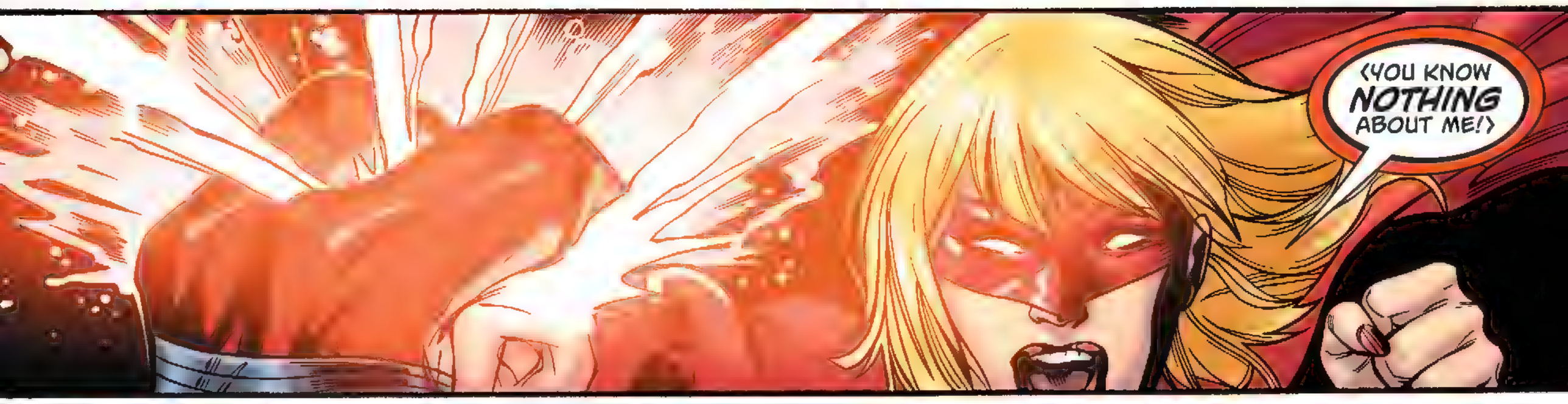
<WE ALL CAME FROM THE SAME KRYPTONIAN LABORATORY.>

<BUT I WAS A SEPARATE EXPERIMENT CREATED NOT TO CONQUER, BUT TO EMPOWER.>

<IS *THAT* WHAT YOU CALL WHAT YOU DO? "EMPOWERING" PEOPLE?>

<BY *DESTROYING* THEIR PLANETS?!>

<KRYPTON'S DESTRUCTION MADE YOU WHAT YOU ARE.>


(YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT ME!)

WORLDKILLERS. I STOPPED FOUR OF THEM FROM CONQUERING EARTH.
THEY VERY NEARLY KILLED ME.
BUT THAT WAS A LIFETIME AGO, BEFORE THE RED RING SHOWED ME WHAT I COULD BE.

BEFORE RAGE SET ME--
--FREE.

SO IF JUST ONE WORLDKILLER THINKS HE CAN BEAT ME NOW, HE IS IN FOR A NASTY SURPRISE.

WHATEVER IS BOOSTING HIS POWER, THERE CAN ONLY BE SO MUCH OF IT. SOONER OR LATER, HIS TANK WILL RUN DRY.

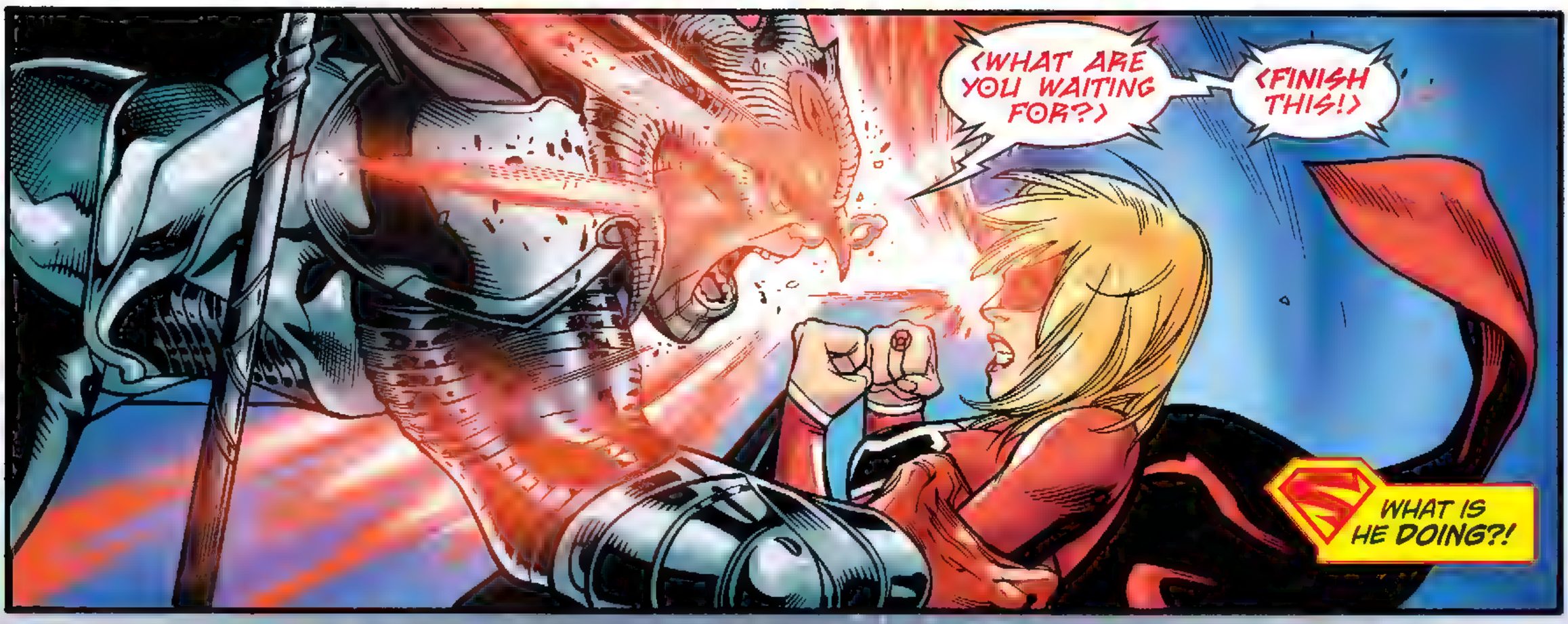
MY RAGE, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS BOTTOMLESS.

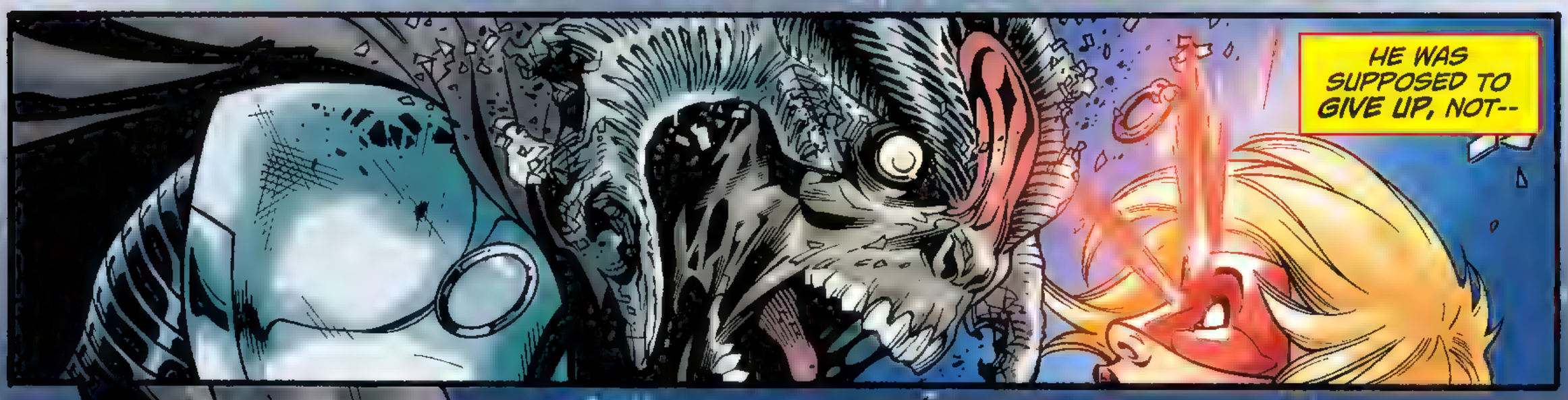
ARHHHH!

MERCIFUL RAO, HE LOOKS LIKE HE JUST AGED THIRTY YEARS!

(SURRENDER.)

(I WILL NOT STOP UNTIL YOU GIVE IN!)


(WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?)
(FINISH THIS!)
WHAT IS HE DOING?!


HE WAS SUPPOSED TO GIVE UP, NOT--

NO!
I...I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
...THIS IS NOT WHAT I WANTED!

THAT MONSTER WOULD HAVE MURDERED EVERYONE ON EARTH, BUT STILL--
RING, TELL ME I DID NOT JUST KILL SOMEONE...!

ANOMALY
ANOMALY
ANOMALY

<YOU LOOK DISTRESSED.>

<DO NOT BE.>

<THAT BODY'S UTILITY WAS AT AN END. I WANTED IT TO BURN OUT-- TO CRUMBLE TO DUST-->

<--SO I CAN HAVE YOURS INSTEAD!>

ALL ALONG, IT WAS THE ARMOR--NOT THE CREATURE TRAPPED INSIDE!

DO THE OTHER DIASPORANS KNOW THIS?

<IMAGINE ALL WE SHALL DO ONCE WE ARE UNITED.>

<KRYPTONIAN. RED LANTERN. WORLDKILLER. ALL IN ONE.>

<WE SHALL BE UNSTOPPABLE.>

?

NO.

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS. THE ATMOSPHERE ON EARTH IS STILL CONTAMINATED...

<YOU CAN FEEL IT, YES?>

<THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD POISONED THEIR OWN ATMOSPHERE WITH KRYPTONITE.>

<A CURIOUS THING TO DO.>

<ONE MIGHT GET THE FEELING THEY DON'T WANT YOUR KIND HERE.>

<SHUT UP!>

...AND ALL THAT'S LEFT IS RAGE?

HOW LONG BEFORE THE KRYPTONIAN PART OF ME SUCCUMBS...

I CAN ALREADY FEEL IT WORMING ITS WAY INTO MY MIND.

<STOP STRUGGLING. I WON'T LET YOU PERISH HERE.>

<I ONLY NEED YOU WEAKENED ENOUGH THAT YOU CANNOT STOP OUR BONDING.>

RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON CONCLUSION

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ROB LEIGH, TAYLOR ESPOSITO letterers cover art by JEFF JOHNSON and CAM SMITH with DAN BROWN

RIO DE JANEIRO. PLANET EARTH.

MY NAME IS KARA ZOR-EL.

I AM KRYPTONIAN.

AND I AM A RED LANTERN.

BUT IF THIS METAL MONSTER HAS ITS WAY, I WON'T EVEN BE ME ANYMORE.

I'LL BE THE LAST THING ANYONE EVER SEES.

IT CALLS ITSELF WORLDKILLER-1.

IT CLAIMS TO BE KRYPTONIAN ARMOR, THOUGH IT IS SOMEHOW ALIVE.

AND LIKE A COSMIC PARASITE, IT WANTS TO MAKE ME ITS "HOST" AS PART OF SOME TWISTED, GALAXY-WIDE, GENOCIDAL CAMPAIGN TO STRENGTHEN ALIEN WORLDS.

THANKS TO THE K-POISONING, MY NATURAL POWERS ARE FADING.

OH, AND THE AIR IS FULL OF KRYPTONITE BECAUSE OF A BATTLE SUPERMAN IS HAVING WITH HIS GOVERNMENT.

BECAUSE, APPARENTLY, RAO THINKS I DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH.

AND THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF THINGS THAT MAKE ME FURIOUS.

LIKE GETTING KICKED OUT OF THE RED LANTERN CORPS...

MY ONLY HOPE NOW IS CHANNELING MY RAGE TO CHARGE MY RING.

...OR THE SICKENING PAIN THIS KRYPTONITE SHOOTS RIGHT THROUGH MY BONES.

WHY WOULD THE HUMANS DO THIS TO THE AIR THEY BREATHE? CAN THEY HATE US THAT MUCH?!

THERE. IT'S ALMOST OVER. STILL YOUR MIND AND--

FSHHHH

GET OFF!

NOT EVEN H'EL MADE ME FEEL THIS VIOLATED!

STOP IT! STOP!

WE DON'T HAVE TO--

:SQUARK:

WE DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT!

YOU STARTED THIS!

THOOM

YOUR RESISTANCE PUTS ALL THESE PEOPLE IN DANGER!

CAN YOU NOT UNDERSTAND-- WE ARE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER?

WAIT!

IT CHOSE THIS PLACE ON PURPOSE-- MADE SURE WE FELL INTO THE WORST POSSIBLE PLACE FOR US TO FIGHT.

STOP!

SKRASH

TOO MANY PEOPLE ALL AROUND US.

ONE WRONG MOVE-- ONE STRAY BLAST-- AND WHOLE FAMILIES GET ERASED!

IF I CAN JUST... CATCH IT BEFORE--

HNH

NO-NO-NO--!

DO YOU SEE?

DO YOU SEE WHAT YOU FORCE ME TO DO?

LET HIM GO!

IF I CANNOT HAVE YOU, I MUST MAKE DO WITH THESE.

HOW DO I FIGHT THIS THING WITHOUT HURTING THE MAN TRAPPED INSIDE?

HNH.

NOT A LOT OF POWER IN THESE EARTH-PEOPLE, IS THERE?

IT SEEMS I REQUIRE TOO MUCH OF THEM.

NO!

GOOD THING THERE ARE MORE.

LET HIM GO.

YOU MADE YOUR POINT. THERE'S NO NEED TO KILL ANOTHER ONE.

IT'S *ME* YOU WANT.

INDEED IT IS.

YOU REPRESENT EVERYTHING I STRIVE FOR.

YOU ARE THE PARTNER I NEED, AND THE STANDARD-BEARER FOR WHOM I HAVE ALWAYS SEARCHED.

LOOK AT YOU! THE UNIVERSE TRIED ITS BEST TO DESTROY YOU AND IT ONLY MADE YOU STRONGER.

THAT IS THE KIND OF STRENGTH I WANT TO SHARE WITH THE REST OF THE UNIVERSE.

CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT BOTH OF OUR LIVES HAVE LED TO THIS UNION?

STOP. JUST STOP.

YOU MAKE US SOUND LIKE LOVERS, AND IT'S TURNING MY STOMACH.

NOT LOVERS. FAMILY. YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHEN WE ARE ONE.

AND YOU WILL SUBMIT. IN ANOTHER FEW MINUTES YOU WILL BE TOO WEAK TO RESIST.

IF YOU ARE REALLY FROM KRYPTON, WHY AREN'T *YOU* GETTING WEAKER FROM THIS KRYPTONITE?

I WAS NOT BORN ON KRYPTON. I WAS MANUFACTURED THERE.

I AM HAPPILY IMMUNE FROM THE FAILINGS OF THE FLESH.

YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND...

OHHHHH...

I WAS CREATED TO EMPOWER YOUR PEOPLE. A BILLION MORE LIKE ME AND WE COULD HAVE SAVED YOUR SPECIES.

ALAS, THERE WAS ONLY EVER ONE OF ME, AND MY MAKER FEARED WHAT HE HAD WROUGHT.

I FAILED TO SAVE KRYPTON, BUT TOGETHER YOU AND I WILL EMPOWER EVERYONE ELSE.

NO. IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS.

HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE... AWAY FROM THIS THING...BEFORE IT SWALLOWS ME WHOLE.

I HOPE IT CHOKES ON MY POISONED--

WAIT. THAT'S IT!

WORLDKILLER-1, DO ONE THING FOR ME AND I WILL SURRENDER.

NAME IT.

LET THAT MAN GO. THIS IS BETWEEN US.

GRANTED.

...ghht...

IF THAT MAN LIVES, IT MAY BE MY ONLY WIN TODAY.

AND NOW WE BOND. NO RESISTANCE. NO EXCUSES.

COME, THEN...

...TAKE HOLD...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHOOSH

AS WE FELL FROM ORBIT, IT LOOKED LIKE THE GREEN SMOG WAS WORST OVER NORTH AMERICA. MUST GET THERE BEFORE I COLLAPSE.

THERE IS NOWHERE TO RUN ANYMORE!

I AM NOT *TRYING* TO RUN.

I AM TRYING TO SPOIL YOUR *MEAT!*

KANSAS. DETONATION POINT OF THE KRYPTONITE BOMB.

IDIOT. THIS IS ONLY HURTING YOU-- AND MAKING IT EASIER FOR ME.

YOUR CONTROL IS SLIPPING. I CAN FEEL IT. I NEED ONLY REACH INTO YOUR MIND TO--

WARNING: CELLULAR TOXICITY CRITICAL.

--SQUEEEE!

THERE. IT'S COMING OFF. I **KNEW** IT.

IF WORLDKILLER-1 FEELS EVEN **HALF** MY PAIN, THERE IS NO WAY IT CAN BOND WITH ME.

WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

RING, THIS IS ALL YOU. I CAN BARELY EVEN MOVE, MUCH LESS FLY ON MY OWN POWER...

RING: HYPERJUMP.

DESTINATION?

THE *SUN!*

WHAT IS THIS? DO YOU MEAN TO INCINERATE ME?

I WON'T ALLOW IT. YOU WILL SUBMIT!

THE SUN... PURGING THE KRYPTONITE SOMEHOW...!

TOO...WEAK... TO KEEP FIGHTING...

ONE...LAST... CHANCE...

MELT IT OFF...MELT...

YOUR DEFIANCE IS IMPRESSIVE, BUT FUTILE.

AT THE MOMENT, MY DESIGN TOLERANCES EXCEED YOURS.

THEN THE ONLY WAY... TO DESTROY IT...IS TO DESTROY...MYSELF...

...HAS TO BE NOW... WHILE I CAN STILL THINK FOR MYSELF...

WARNING! RING REMOVAL WILL RESULT IN INSTANT DEATH

WARNING! WARNING!

BUM BUM BUM BUM BUM BUM

MOTHER... FATHER...

...PLEASE... FORGIVE...

...

KRIK

SKRAK

KRAK

KRA-BOOM

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

PLANET YSMAULT. SPACE SECTOR 2814.

HOME OF THE RED LANTERNS.

RRRR

A NOBLE SACRIFICE. BUT IN THE END, YOU ACCOMPLISH NOTHING.

I TOUCHED YOUR MIND. I GLIMPSED YOUR MEMORIES.

I SAW YOUR COUSIN, KAL-EL.

SUPERMAN.

HE WILL SERVE MY MISSION JUST AS WELL...

...

...KAL...

...KAL... I'M SORRY...

...AND HE WON'T HAVE A RED RING TO STOP ME.

FWOOSH

A WASTE.

THE WONDERS WE COULD HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

THE OPPORTUNITY YOU'VE THROWN AWAY.

AH, WELL-- AT LEAST THERE IS STILL ONE KRYPTONIAN REMAINING...

FWOOSH

CURIOUS.

THAT IS THE VERY SPOT WHERE SHE--

INCREDIBLE!

WASN'T SURE THIS WOULD WORK-- THAT THE SUN WOULD REVIVE ME LIKE A SHOT OF ADRENALINE TO THE HEART.

BUT THIS SEEMINGLY INSIGNIFICANT YELLOW STAR HAS BEEN THE WELLSPRING OF MY POWER EVER SINCE FATHER SENT ME HERE.

AND I HAVE NEVER DRANK SO DEEP FROM THAT WELLSPRING.

NEVER FELT SO STRONG!

YOU SURPASS MY WILDEST EXPECTATIONS!

YOU WILL MAKE THE PERFECT HOST FOR--

SSSSSSS

--SQUEEE!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T. THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPING TODAY.

MY MIND IS FREE OF ALL THE RAGE AND CONFUSION NOW.

I KNOW WHO I AM, AND I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE--

A MOCKERY OF LIFE.

THIS IS NOT MURDER.

IT IS THE END OF A TERRIBLE MISTAKE.

)!(

SKOW

I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE MOON.

THERE ARE A FEW THOUSAND **DIASPORANS** STILL FLOATING OUT THERE AMONG THE REMNANTS OF THEIR FLEET.

MAYBE **SHAY VERITAS** CAN HELP ME FIND AN UNINHABITED PLANET FOR THEM TO LIVE ON NOW THAT THEIR LEADER IS NOTHING BUT MELTED SLAG.

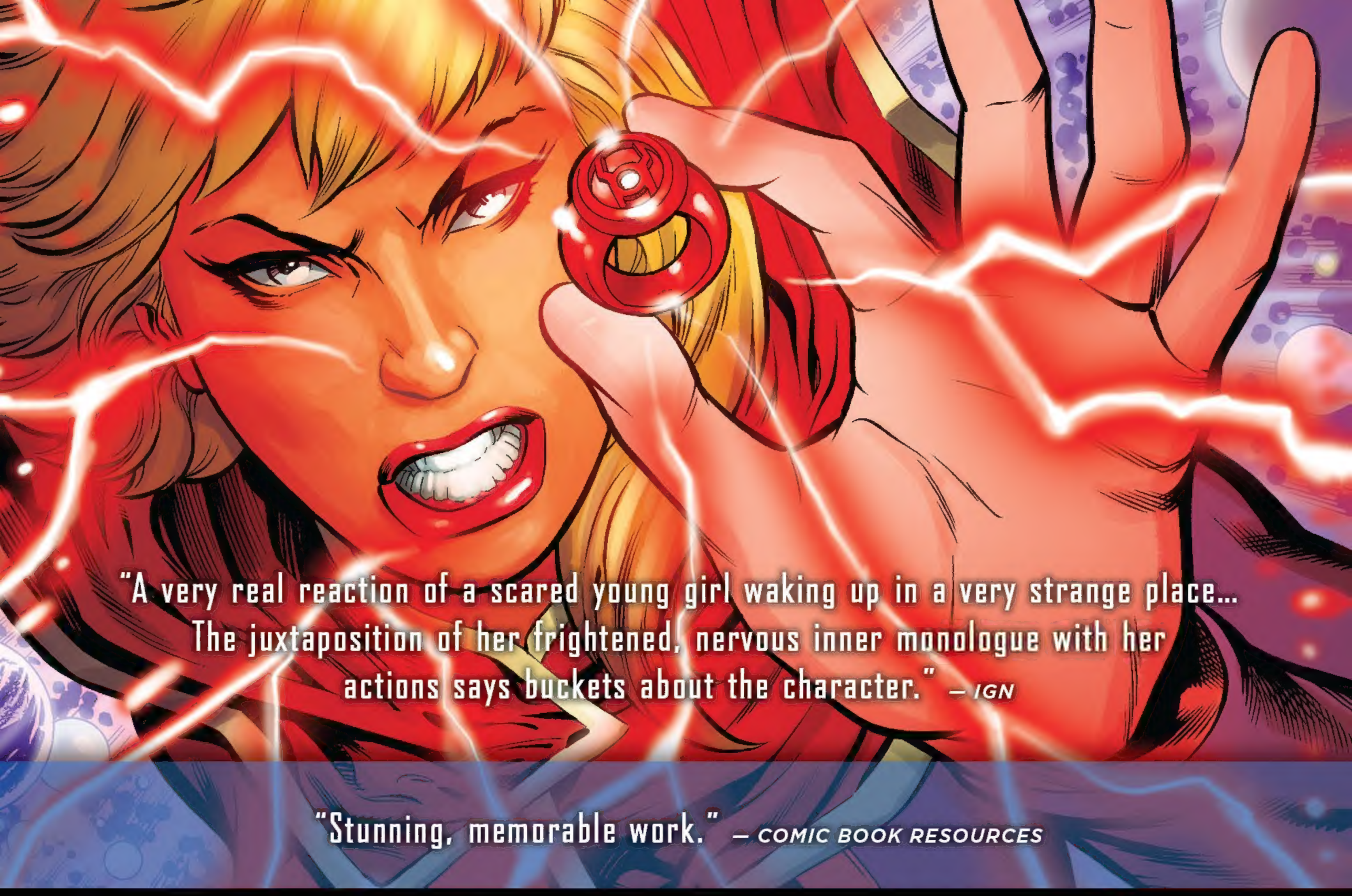
AND MAYBE SHAY CAN TELL ME IF ANYONE **ELSE** HAS EVER TAKEN OFF A RED LANTERN RING AND LIVED, BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE I JUST DID THE **IMPOSSIBLE.**

AND IF I CAN DO THAT, MAYBE I **CAN** DO SOMETHING THAT SEEMS EVEN MORE OUT OF REACH--

--MAYBE I **CAN** MAKE A LIFE AND A PLACE FOR MYSELF ON PLANET EARTH.

RED LANTERN SUPERGIRL

DESIGN BY KENNETH ROCAFORT



KARA'S RAGE UNLEASHED!

All Kara Zor-El ever wanted was to get back home. Since the destruction of Krypton, Kara has tried desperately to make a new home for herself on Earth as the heroic Supergirl, but nothing has worked out. She's lost friends, been lied to and manipulated, and had her heart's greatest wish twisted and turned against her.

Now, a battle with the deadly alien bounty hunter Lobo has pushed Kara too far. Supergirl has great rage in her heart...enough rage to attract a red power ring and turn Kara into an out-of-control, flame-spewing Red Lantern!

But the Red Lanterns aren't the mindless instruments of destruction they once were. Under the leadership of former Green Lantern Guy Gardner, they're now the defenders of Space Sector 2814—the home of Earth! With her mind restored and a Red Lantern ring on her hand, could Kara have finally found the one place she truly belongs?

Writer TONY BEDARD (*GREEN LANTERN: NEW GUARDIANS*) and artists YILDIRAY CINAR (*EARTH 2*), EMANUELA LUPACCHINO (*WORLDS' FINEST*) and RAY McCARTHY (*BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT*), along with CHARLES SOULE and ALESSANDRO VITTI of RED LANTERNS fame, introduce a brand new direction for the Girl of Steel...and it just might be too dangerous for the universe to handle! SUPERGIRL: RED DAUGHTER OF KRYPTON collects SUPERGIRL #26-33, RED LANTERNS #28-32 and GREEN LANTERN #28.

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